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THE OLDEST AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MARYLAND.

Terms :---\$1.00 a Year, in Advance.

VOL. XVII.

FEBRUARY, .

No. 2

THE

MARYLAND FARMER:

A

MONTHLY MAGAZINE :

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

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BALTIMORE, MD.

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BALTIMORE, MD.

FARMERS AND PLANTERS GUIDE

To the Business Houses of Baltimore.

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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

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BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY, 1880.

No. 2.

American Agricultural Association.

A SYNOPSIS OF REMARKS OF PROF. W. H. BREWER.

Wm. H. Brewer, Professor of Agriculture in Yale College, read a short paper, in which, after expressing sympathy and co-operation with the new movement, he gave his opinion as to what should be the function of the new society and the direction in which we may expect it to do its best and most successful work.

First, the work must be *positive*, not *negative*. We may criticise and grumble at the existing societies and institutes to our hearts content, but our new society cannot live on that alone. No matter how fiercely we may pitch into the Agricultural Department at Washington, or any society that may not please some of our members, we must not rely on this for success. The world will measure our means by what we do, not what we say some one else ought to do.

Secondly, we must remember that there is already in the field a great variety of organizations, aggregating some thousands in number, not only now actively at work, but some of them dating back into the last century, and who have already made an honorable name and history. They are so varied in their scope that they already cover every department of American Agriculture—they are so varied, so numerous, so careful, and their literature so extensive, that many of us, if not indeed most of us, are now querying how we can find the time and thought to devote to another. Beginning with the Neighborhood Farmers' Club, they rise and branch out until they already reach, it seems, to us, the very outermost limits of the subject. There are Farmers' Clubs, Town Societies, County Societies, State Societies, in the several States. There are Horticultural societies, and Fruit Growers' Conventions; Forestry associations, Tree Planting Clubs and societies; we have Grangers, and Boards of Agriculture, and Commissioners of Agriculture; we

have Experimenting Stations and Agricultural Schools; we have an Agricultural Department at Washington, and Commissioners investigating cattle diseases and cotton worms and grasshoppers; we have Cotton-planters' associations, and Cane-growers' associations; we have clubs, societies, and associations for each department of live stock—for Short Horns, Jerseys, Ayrshires, Devons, Merino sheep, Berkshire pigs, etc.; we have Poultry societies, and Dairy associations; we have Breeders' associations, and Trotting Parks, and Dog shows, and so on to the end of a very long list.

Some of these are as local as the neighborhood, others as broad as the nation. They are *already at work*, and very many of them doing their work well. Yet there is room for a National Agricultural Society; but if this new society has any reason for being, it is to either do work the others have begun, better than they are doing it, or else it must do its work mostly on those wide and very general questions in which the whole nation is interested, and in which all parts can co-operate.

If this be true, and I believe it to be, we can never hope to hold a fair, unless Nation and States combine to make it a success by liberal appropriations from their respective treasuries, a very uncertain hope. From the very nature of the case, without such exterior aid, the fair will degenerate into a local exhibition, no better, and probably not as good as those held by societies with less ambitious titles.

Further, our national domain is so wide, our climate, soil, and productions so varied, that there is a natural diversity of interest, and great sections stand in agricultural antagonism to each other. In the fierce struggle commercial competition, their separate local interests often stand in conflict with each other as regards our national policies towards each, and however much we may ignore this in our speeches at National gatherings, yet it is a factor to be considered in discussing the function of a National Agricultural Society,

Modern Agriculture is both an Art and a Science. The *Art* of Agriculture is very old, almost as old as our race. The *Science* of Agriculture is very young, almost as young as men now living. When distant regions did not stand in direct competition with each, and when farming processes were singular, then the *Art* sufficed very well. Now, when distant regions stand in sharp competition with each other in the markets of agricultural products, *Science* must play a controlling part, or the weaker goes to the wall.

The *Art* of Agriculture still varies with the locality, with the traditions of the district, with the soil, and the thousand and one other external conditions which still hold a general control over the Agriculture of any particular locality. The *Art* is *local* and *changeable*, but the principles of *Science* are *fixed* and *general*.

The *Art* must be changed with new inventions, new facilities, and new discoveries, but scientific principles, founded on Nature's laws, remain the same, though they may be applied in new directions, to meet new needs or overcome old difficulties.

If New England farmers are to hold their own against the North West, it must be with the aid of modern sciences, rather than improving the ancient *Art*; and if California continues to compete with the Black Sea, in the markets of Western Europe, it must be because she brings superior science to her aid.

So it is evident to me that it is in this direction that a *National Society* must do its best and greatest work. Otherwise it will fall short of its high aim, and either fail entirely or exist as any other local affair. It must turn its energies into the widest channel of the *Science* of Agriculture, and learn to advance and disseminate knowledge in this specific direction.

During a short recess, an Agricultural magazine was distributed in the room of the meeting, in which were some personal reflections upon the character of Dr. Loring, from Massachusetts, a prominent member of the Association. The presiding officer requested that they should be gathered up and removed, which was done. Before the meeting adjourned the Doctor took occasion to call the attention of the meeting to the article referred to, and warmly defended himself, closing his brief defence with the remark that:—"I shall remain here and perform the work assigned me with zeal and alacrity, for the benefit of a National Agricultural Association, and in spite of those who are doing all in their power to strangle it at its birth."

THE APIARY.

OUR LONDON LETTERS.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

LONDON, AUG. 3, 1879.

The British Bee-keepers' Association, which was established in 1874, commenced on Tuesday and concluded on the 24th ult. its annual show at the Royal Horticultural Garden, South Kensington. The season has been as unfavorable to bees as to the other workers dependent upon the seasons. The "little almsmen of spring bowers" have suffered like the flowers themselves, and have often been driven to eat in one week the honey they had laid up in the preceding. The exhibition of honey is therefore very poor; but on the other hand, there is an excellent show of hives and appliances for bee manipulation. The prize for the best hive, for the purpose of observation, has been awarded so Mr. J. A. Abbott, the well known bee-master of Southall, for a hive of very simple construction, formed by putting loose frames in a box made of plate-glass. Very noticeable in this observatory is the habit of the bees to cluster together for warmth on one comb, leaving others entirely deserted.

For the best and most complete movable comb hive, with covering, stand, and facilities for storing surplus honey, the first prize is taken by Mr. J. M. Hooker, of Seven Oaks, with the improved Alexandria hive, a vast American hotel for bees. In the same class Captain P. E. Martin, of King's Somborne, near Stockbridge, Hants, shows the simple bar-frame hive which he calls "The Sailor's," used on a large scale in Hampshire to supply honey to the London market. The Bee-keepers' Association, which was formed to promote humanity to the honey bee, has done its work so thoroughly that it is hardly necessary now to explain what is meant by "depriving." It is the essence of the modern system, which, instead of killing the bees for their honey when they have done good work and may do more, uses hives so constructed that the bees can easily be driven out and the combs taken. The combs are then emptied of their honey, replaced, and speedily refilled by the exemplary workers. Above the hive proper are often placed little boxes, "supers," to be filled with a convenient quantity of honey by the bees, who are at the right moment drummed out or in,

duced to go by admitting some vapor they detest. The prize for supers was gained by Mr. Steele, of Fowlis, near Glasgow. Some American "supers" shown are a novelty. They are little squares of one piece of wood nearly cut through at three points, with enough wood left to serve as a hinge, and mortised together at the fourth angle. They are marvels of neatness and cheapness of construction. Some of the American "supers" cost only 24s a thousand. There are three classes for bees. Mr. J. A. Abbott wins first prize for golden-banded Ligurians. Messrs. Neighbor and Baldwin tie for the brown English bees. In the general foreign class, Messrs. Neighbor show Carniolans; Mr. J. P. Jackson, Cyprians, imported from Cyprus by Cori, of Bohemia. No one sends Egyptian bees; but there is an Egyptian hive—a long, hollow cylinder, rolled together out of Nile mud and straw, in Messrs. Abbott's collection. The prize for the largest and best harvest of honey in the comb from one stock is taken by Mr. S. Thorne, of Baldock. It consists of 40 lbs., gathered on the borderland of Herts and Cambridgeshire, from the blossom of fruit trees, from sanfoin and clover. In the honey fair delightful white American supers of honey from Mr. Isham's are shown by Messrs. Thurber. In a tent in the grounds, where the Horse Guards' band played, a keen competition went on Thursday for the driving prize. The duty of inducing bees to leave their hives while the honey is extracted on transferring them to a new hive, is that which most tests a bee-master's skill. An important part of the work is to find the queen, for the worker bees will quickly follow her. M. Dennler lost his queen altogether, and when his time had expired she was found in the grip of a bee from a foreign hive, who had attacked her to assassinate her. Mr. W. Martin, who won last year, let his queen bee pass up unobserved. Mr. Walton found the queen of his Italians in three minutes, forty-five seconds, and completed the driving in six minutes and forty seconds. He took the first prize.

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND, AUG. 6

The Caledonian Aparian Society, in accordance with a precedent inaugurated some few seasons ago, chose the occasion of the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show for their exhibition of hives, bees, honey, etc., and I will give a brief account of the exhibition.

Passing along to the north-east corner of the grounds, where are pitched the tents sacred to the bee, we find the centre of attraction to be the Observatory Hives. Mr. Boyce Wilson's hive, working somewhat on the old "Huber" principle, was

noticeable both for its ingenuity and beauty. The bars, seven in number, were of the Woodbury size, arranged in a row, and standing parallel with each other. These, working on a pivot, opened out like the leaves of a book, while the bees found their way to the main channel down the centre of the pivot. I do not know, however, if the bees would find themselves quite at home in the elaborate complications of such a dwelling. A most interesting thing was elicited by the prize offered for the most artistic design wrought by the bees. Mr. W. W. Young Perth did himself an honor by the exhibition of the Perth arms—two spread eagles with the word "Perth" underneath, and wrought out in honey-comb; and the design received the attention and admiration it so well deserved. Mr. R. R. Godfrey showed a beautiful collection of natural objects and diagrammatic illustrations of apicultural subjects. Among the former was a curiosity in the shape of a wasp's nest found in a hive. Terrible as these creatures have always seemed, I could not help thinking that our old enemies would have gotten their deserts had the Ligurian bee been tenants of the invaded hive. The hives shown were numerous, and all of a superior kind, both as to workmanship and design. One of the exhibits was a machine for making artificial comb foundation, along with a specimen of the work produced which was of a high order. This machine is, like many leading inventions, the product of American ingenuity. The honey extractors received considerable notice. Mr. Steele's extractor is a reproduction of A. J. Root's, of America, being his 20-inch Woodbury, with a strong wire mesh of about $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch. Mr. Young's was also a superior machine, somewhat after the same pattern, but instead of the combs being placed as they stand in the hive (as in the former one) they are placed on their ends, in a slanting position.

The manipulation tent was the scene of great interest during the Show. It is of octagon shape, the operator standing in the middle, while the public feel secure under the protection of an intervening gauze screen. Driving bees from a straw skep, and transferring their combs to a bar-frame hive were hourly operations, and never failed to strike with astonishment the spectators, who stood aghast at seeing a human being unprotected turning up a hive of live bees and handling them as though they were blue flies. Not a little excitement was created amongst the onlookers when Mrs. W. W. Young entered the ring alone and demonstrated to them that ladies were quite capable of performing the different operations connected with apiculture.

FARM WORK FOR FEBRUARY.

This month makes the farmer realize the fact that the time of leisure is over and the days of active toil have come.—All things required for plowing must be put in order, that the plows may start the first day the land and weather permit; fencing material hauled in place, or fences made and repaired; ditches cleaned out and new ones opened; manure hauled and spread, and coated with gypsum as soon as spread to fix or retain the ammonia.

OATS.

Oats ought to be sown this month if the weather permits. Let the land be well prepared and fertilized, then sow in drill one bushel and two pecks, or broad-cast 2 bushels per acre. They should be covered two inches deep and rolled. If grass can be sown with the oats, the rolling should follow the sowing of the seed, which will put the seeds in sufficiently deep. Good seed, good soil, thorough preparation, and early sowing, will make the oat crop productive and highly valuable.

TOP DRESSING.

All the grain fields, and the meadows, and young clover, should be treated to a top-dressing, this month, with one bushel of plaster and from 3 to 6 bushels of salt per acre, well mixed, or may be sown separately. This application will well repay on whatever grass or grain crop it may be used.

STOCK OF ALL KINDS

Ought to be carefully treated this month—horses especially, as they are shedding their coats, ought to be warmly housed, nicely groomed, and well fed. Young colts, calves, and lambs, require the best attention and protection against cold and harsh winds. Cows should have a generous allowance of meal, bran, or mill feed, cut hay, well moistened with tepid water, and once a day a feed of roots. Their food, as well as the food of all animals, should be varied often, so that they will not tire of one sort of feed. They, like man, require a change of diet often. Feed the young colts and cattle high, but do not give them too much corn or corn and cob meal, as it is too heating, and tends to fat-forming rather than supplying bone and muscle. Let the young stock have plenty of exercise and pure water, with comfortable sheds to retire to feed and be out of the cold or wet weather. Keep the floors of the sheds well bedded with leaves or straw.

Pigs coming in this or next month, if kept well fed on milk, swill, mush, and some grain, until

clover is plenty, and even then a little grain daily, so that they shall never become hungry, will weigh next December from 250 to 350 lbs. each. This system with hogs of improved breeds has been found to be the most economical mode of raising pork.

We do not advocate the plan of raising hogs in large numbers in this section of the country, but we think every farmer should raise a supply for all demands on the farm—not only pork, but beef and mutton, poultry, pigeons, (and fish, where it can be done) butter, eggs, honey, fruit, and oxen, horses, and cows, for his own use. He would then be independent, and the surplus of honey, poultry, and dairy products ought to be sufficient to buy all the groceries and edible delicacies his family requires during the year. His potatoes and other vegetables, beans, lambs, wool, mutton, old cows and steers as beef, to pay his taxes, clothing, and current expenses of the farm. Enough corn and rye should be sold to pay for all the labor, leaving his staple crop, tobacco or wheat, or both, as a nett revenue to pay debts or for investment. Let such be each man's aim, the present year, and a healthy state of financial affairs will be found within our borders at the end of the year.

FARM ROADS.

Every opportunity should be embraced to make new or repair old roads, cause-ways, and bridges on the farm. First, see that they are laid off conveniently, and as straight as the nature of things will allow; then make them as perfect as you can, so that all turning out will hereafter be avoided. If possible, one good road should lead from the dwelling to the public road, having branches communicating with every field, so that is may not be necessary to pass through several fields to reach one. This matter is much neglected, and a great deal of unnecessary labor and time, and wear and tear of vehicles and animals, and waste of ground, is expended by such neglect. Such a road or lane running from the house or barn-yard through the farm is a great convenience, and would save much fence material, by having a moveable fence to cut off a pasture from a larger area. This lane should be broad and have a row of nut-bearing trees, or fruit trees, on each side, with a line fence, like an Osage Orange hedge, on either side, or a plank fence, or what is better and cheaper than all, the new and popular "barbed wire fence." Ten years ago we wrote:—"Such is the immense cost of fences, we feel sure the day is not distant when gates on the public roads will be done away with." Our prophecy, we are happy to say, has been verified. That public nuisance has melted away un-

der the influence of a more enlightened system of agriculture. We now predict that it will not be long before the Soiling system will be popular and the great cost of outside fencing and division fences will to a great degree be got rid of, because under the Soiling system their necessity will no longer exist. The day, we hope, is near at hand, when all the stock on the farm will be kept in barns, pens or small lots, and pastures, temporarily fenced with movable fencing, with the rest of the farm unfenced. Even division lines between neighbors marked only by trees, paths, or cheap fences of one or two rails or wires. But the French system would be the best, that is, no fences at all, only a strip of uncultivated land marking the boundary lines, with a row of fruit trees on each side of the line.

There is nothing which is so fruitful a cause of ill-feeling between neighbors as fences. They are a perpetual cause of irritation, worry, and quarrel. We have no proper "fence law" in any of the Middle States, and in case of trespass of stock we have nothing practical and clear to guide legal decisions, but the common law, which, in most cases, while it is admitted that under the common law every man is bound to take care of his own stock, yet the defendant is usually allowed to off-set the damages for trespass, by a claim of unlawful detention of his stock, or some injury done the same in turning them out of the plaintiff's inclosure, or in impounding them, or ill-treatment during their being impounded. The law is not clear as to whether a party trespassed upon can put the owner of the stock to the expense of publication of the impounding of said stock, when he knows the owner of the stock. Decisions have been made by lower courts both ways on this point:—A catches a calf worth \$5 on his premises, knows it belongs to his neighbor, but takes it before a magistrate as a trespassing estray, impounds it, and advertises it, and the whole cost may be \$15. To redeem it B has to pay \$15 for his own calf which in the market would not bring a third of that sum; yet knowing its pedigree, is forced to pay the amount or let it go to A, who may be too poor to pay costs and gets the calf for the trouble of impounding it.

The best that can be done, if the system of fencing is to continue, is to have a plain, definite, law on the subject of fences and cattle trespass, that every man can clearly understand his legal rights. This would save much litigation and unhappy disputes. In this connection we would again refer to the subject of a strenuous dog law, for the protection of sheep, and urge for the thousandth time upon our farmers everywhere to

combine, or to singly write to their representatives in the legislatures and demand from them such a law as to break up sheep-killing by dogs, and at same time to foster one of the greatest and most useful of agricultural industries.

It is ridiculous that a man who steals a hen is severely punished and degraded for life, yet his dog can kill and maim 50 valuable sheep and yet be protected by the law of property, and if the owner of the sheep should kill the dog, except in the act, on clear proof, and on his own premises, he would have to pay for the dog perhaps more than the value of the flock of sheep. With a stringent dog law farmers would be financially better off by millions of dollars. Then let every sheep owner and every man who wants to engage in sheep husbandry, write his own personal appeal to his Representative, and we shall soon accomplish what we want and what is a necessity for the general welfare of all *producers and consumers*.

FARM IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Among the many important implements that should be used on every farm where stock is kept for farm use, for driving, or for feeding; for the shambles, or for the purpose of breeding and raising stock of all kinds, there is not one we deem more important, more necessary, and more economical than the Young America Corn and Cob Mill of Messrs. Whitman, Sons, & Co. At this period of the year we do consider it indispensable for the perfect feeding and management of farm stock. The *Evening News*, of Baltimore City, in speaking of the National Fair at Washington, says:—"The fair at Ivy City closed its exhibition yesterday after a very successful show of ten days. Among the many who gained premiums were noticed Messrs. E. Whitman & Co. of this city, who received \$40 on their Young America corn and cob mill and their wheat fan. Since the many analyses of the cob and the corn and cob ground together have been made by the United States Commissioner of Agriculture and others who are highly competent, farmers and stock breeders have become satisfied of the great advantages of grinding corn and cob for feeding their stock. Fortunately for the farmers, the Messrs. Whitman have invented and perfected and are manufacturing a mill which fully answers the purpose, and which has received premiums at the best fairs in the country, and has met with large sales in every section of the Union where its excellence has been tested. By thus grinding, the cob is utilized, and not less than 25 per cent. is thereby added to the value of the corn crop used in feeding stock. This is surely a great saving to the farmer."

*For the Maryland Farmer:***Cost of a Sugar Beet Factory.**

Having frequent inquiries as to the cost of a factory to convert sugar beets into sugar, I give you in answer to them the following estimate:

A sugar beet factory to work up one thousand bushels or thirty tons of sugar beets per day, will produce eight hundred pounds of raw or brown sugar; the residuum of molasses with the beet pulp is good feed for stock; or the molasses can be sold to the distillers, and the raw sugar to the sugar refiners. The cost of erecting a factory with the requisite machinery to work up this quantity per day, will not vary much from the following figures, depending somewhat as to locality:

Building, 2 stories, 40x60,	\$ 700.00
Engine and boiler, 10 horse power,	800.00
Power press, cloths. sacks, etc.,	525.00
Washer and grater,	100.00
Elevator, tanks, pumps, etc.,	500.00
Shafting, belts, pulleys, etc.,	150.00
Pulp tubs and elevated track,	100.00
Pomace truck and track,	25.00
Evaporator, etc.,	500.00
Contingencies,	100.00
	— \$3500.00.

This would be in active work from November to March, four months, or one hundred working days, and would consume in this time three thousand tons or one hundred thousand bushels of sugar beets, and produce four hundred and eighty thousand pounds of sugar, to do which will require the labor of eight men and boys.

Cost of 3,000 bu. sug: beets, \$5 per ton,	\$15,000.
" " fuel,	1,000
" " labor,	800.

Total cost.	\$ 16,800.
Product, 480,000 lbs. sugar, at 3½c,	16,800.

The residuum of molasses and beet pulp will more than pay the interest and depreciation, and six per cent, in addition on the capital invested, the difference between the cost of the sugar and its market value is so much additional profit. If water power is used, it will save some of the expense for machinery as well as a portion of the expense for fuel. The above is all that is required to make raw sugar, which meets a ready sale and is in quick demand at the sugar refineries already established. As the business grows, other refineries will be established in the localities where they are needed, but these require expensive machinery, skillful labor, and a large amount of capital.

ANDREW H. WARD.

Massachusetts.

*For the Maryland Farmer.***Purification of the Beet Juice.**

The removal of impurities from beet juice, as it is delivered from the press, may be divided into two processes, desiccation and clarification. The crude juice contains, besides sugar and water, the impurities—earthy insoluble particles, fragments of crushed beets, albumen, cassine, wax, soluble coloring matter, and soluble salts. The coarser of the insoluble particles are sometimes removed mechanically, previous to the process of desiccation.

But certain of the nitrogenous impurities of the crude juice if left in contact with the syrup speedily determine its fermentation, thereby occasioning loss in sugar, and owing to the subsequent conversion of the alcohol generated by fermentation into acetic acid, causing the corrosion of the metallic portions of the apparatus.

It is of the greatest importance that the power of desiccation, whereby the nitrogenized compounds are removed, should follow with as little delay as possible the extraction of the juice.

The filtration also should, for the same reason, be performed as rapidly as possible. This filtration is effected through a double sieve, the metallic meshes of the first being about one-twelfth, those of the lower, about one-thirtieth of an inch asunder. The juice is run directly from the press through the sieves and a wooden gutter to the dripping-pan.

Cream of lime is added sufficient to neutralize the acid in the juice. The lime should be thoroughly burned and quickly slaked with hot water, enough water being added to give the consistency of cream, successive portions of the cream of lime are added, until the acid in the syrup acetic and lactic have been completely and exactly neutralized, which is shown by its neutrality to blue and red litmus paper, the mixture of syrup and cream of lime must be thoroughly incorporated by stirring. When the scum rises to the surface, it must be removed by skimming. As the juice becomes concentrated to the granulating point, it is drawn into shallow, wooden vessels, where it is allowed to cool, and from thence it is conveyed into the hogsheads in the curing-house.

The floor of the curing-house in which the molasses is drained from the sugar is composed of a series of gutters which incline to the centre of the building, and deliver their contents to a main gutter, which communicates to a tank for the molasses. The hogsheads are placed on end over this gutter, small holes being bored in their ends for the passage of the molasses. The

sugar, after remaining in the curing house about fourteen days, is ready for shipment, and is known in the market as raw sugar, and is purchased by the sugar refiners, and the demand is unlimited.

ANDREW H. WARD.

GARDEN WORK FOR FEBRUARY.

In the South this is a busy month in gardening, while in the Middle States but little can be done, beyond getting it in proper trim for spring, in the way of manuring, spading, cleaning up and trimming broken shrubs, borders, and putting the walks in order.

If the weather permits, and the ground is in order, peas, carrots, beets, parsnips, radish, onion seeds, etc., may be sown.

Hot-beds may be prepared the last of the month to be sown before the 10th of next month, unless there be a sufficiency of cold frames prepared. If you have the latter, make and sow your hot bed this month, and as the lettuce, cabbage, tomato, egg-plant and other seeds sown grow to three inches in height, transplant into the cold frames, and when they grow to twice that size, transplant to another cold frame, giving them more air and exposure as the weather warms, and by this process they will form an abundance of roots, and become stout-stemmed, and well hardened, so that they will stand the change to the open ground when the proper time comes for setting them out. Plants right from the hot bed to the open ground, no matter how warm the weather, never do well; they are generally two-leaved, leggy, overgrown things, that wither away or die right out. Transplant, by all means, once, twice, or three times, before they are put in the open ground, if you want vigorous, strong, healthy plants, to bear well. At each transplanting they should have more room and good soil. Cold frames are almost indispensable to an early and successful gardener. Now is the time the seeds should be looked over, and a memorandum made of what seeds you want, and then carefully study some two or more catalogues of noted seedsmen, and write for your different seeds, so as to have them in time. Try some of the novelties, but don't risk your entire crop on any one of them until you have tested them in your own soil.

At the proper time we shall express our unprejudiced opinion as to which sorts are best, according to our practical experience with them. It must be remembered that the same seed will not suit all soils and all treatments, so it is well to try for one's self a few of different sorts, and thereafter can be safe in making a selection.

Among the Grangers.

The regular monthly meeting of Brighton Grange, No. 60: was held at its Grange Hall, in Brighton, Montgomery co., Md., Friday, November 28th, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Bro. W. J. Scofield stated that it was desirable to get our apples from the South, as Northern varieties could not be relied upon to exhibit the qualities which make them justly valued there, and opened a book for the reception of orders.

The Committee on Economy and Reform in Public Expenditure (Bro. D. Lawrence, Chairman) reported further in favor of expending the benefits of a rudimentary education to every citizen, to protect him from the wiles of others; the committee was opposed to large appropriations to educational institutions, to teach the advanced branches to favored pupils, when so many are ignorant of the rudiments; the committee also suggested several changes in the mode of administering the law, that it might be an agent more adapted to the wants of the people than it now is.

After the reception, alteration, and adoption of the report, a committee—Lawrence, Scofield, and Hartshorne—was appointed to prepare the report for publication and submit it to the Grange before taking further action. An election for two alternates to the State Grange resulted in the choice of Bro. Lawrence and the Secretary.

Discussion of the special question—What does it cost to raise and put our crops in house, including, of course, such current expenses as are incidental to the raising of the crop—being in order, Bro. W. J. Scofield said the cost would vary in different years: the price of labor, seeds, and fertilizers vary; thought the question should be how much per acre does it cost to raise our crops? it costs as much per bushel to raise wheat when the price is low as it does when the price is high.

W. Lecturer Stabler heard of a case where one-third was given for harvesting, thrashing, and marketing, after the crop had been raised.

Bro. Lawrence, in answer to what Bro. Scofield said in regard to the form of the question, suggested that the peculiar form of the question was probably to ascertain what ought to be the tenant's share, or what the owner could afford to allow the tenant.

W. Treasurer raised a crop of wheat in the valley of Virginia, that cost him \$6 per acre; his first crop was 12 bushels per acre; his last crop was 35 bushels per acre; now he thinks it costs him \$5 per acre to raise a crop of wheat; crops now average, he thinks, 20 bushels per acre.

Bro. Lawrence thought as the average price of wheat was about \$1.40 per bu., and the average yield 20 bu., it would make the cost of raising and housing one-half the crop, and moved that that be considered the sense of the Grange on the question.

Bro. Stabler—Keeps a regular account with his farm, and the prices for his produce, and charges his farm with stock, seed, fertilizers, labor, etc., but as he had not the figures with him, asked that the motion might be withdrawn until he could examine more closely into this important question with the light of actual experience to guide us in its solution, and urged farmers to keep regular accounts with their farms and crops. The motion was withdrawn.

W. Chaplain—It takes all a farmer's time to make a crop, and he only gets a living out of it.

The question was postponed until the next meeting.

In suggestions for the good of the order, the worthy Lecturer read statistics showing increase in the value of cattle exported to Europe. It was stated that the Great Eastern was being fitted up to carry 2800 head of cattle and a large number of sheep from this country to England. The weather being stormy, the Grange soon closed, without further discussion, to meet on Friday, Dec. 28th.

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For the Maryland Farmer:

The Sugar Interest.

There has ever been a demand for sugar and syrups, which has occasioned large importations of both articles.

It is always considered good economy to produce, so far as may be, whatever is consumed in a country, but this has not been done in the case of sugar. While that and molasses have been produced to some extent, the greatly increased use of both has led to a study of means by which the production may be also increased not only to supply the demand from increased use, but also to supply the deficiency that is made up by importation. For a considerable period of time, experiments have been made in the culture of sorghum and its manufacture into syrup; experiments have also been made in the culture of beets, and the attempt to manufacture sugar therefrom, profitably. Some twenty-two years or more ago, a distribution of sorghum seed was made by the Department of Agriculture, but at that time there were no opportunities for extracting the juice, or reducing it to syrup so far as the Northern States are concerned. But at a more recent date ma-

chinery for grinding was introduced, and also, pans for evaporating. As a consequence, small quantities of the sorghum cane have been grown by many farmers; sufficient for the production of what syrup would make up for the consumption of market molasses, most of which is brought from the West Indies. It has always been considered by those who have been producers of this article, that it can be produced for very much less money than is required to purchase a much inferior article. The cost of producing the cane is but little, if any, more than to grow an equal surface of corn, and the leaves furnish an amount of forage of sufficient value to pay for harvesting the crop. With the present knowledge it is difficult to judge of what an average crop would be, for the reason that, like so many other crops, it is subject to change from the variety of atmospheric and climatic conditions.

Variety of soil also appears to have a marked influence in the production of saccharine matter contained in the juice of the cane. Thus far, with the aid of such appliances as are at hand, little difficulty is experienced in producing a good article of syrup, an article that is by many preferred to any of the average grades of molasses that come into the markets. It is a singular fact that an article was produced in Conn. last season at a cost of twenty-five cents per gallon that was in demand at eighty cents per gallon, while the market value of average molasses was from fifty to fifty-five cents per gallon.

Thus it will be seen that upon that basis for calculation, it will be a matter of profit to farmers to enter more largely into the manufacture of an article, to supplant an imported and inferior one. Up to a very recent date no attempt had been made in the manufacture of sugar from sorghum, but through the efforts of Commissioner Le Duc, under the direct supervision of Prof. Collier, a new field has been opened, which, if in any way as promising as the enthusiastic Prof. represents, should be immediately seized upon, for it is now demonstrated, that, not only can good sugar be made from sorghum syrup, but also from the juice of the common corn stalks. Prof. Collier is very positive in his belief of the success of this new industry, and also in its great profitableness. In fact, so strong is his belief that he asserts that while since 1848 the product of all the gold and silver mines, or the amount of \$1,800,000,000, has been paid for sugar imported into this country; in five years we shall manufacture all the sugar we use, and in ten years we shall export more than we have ever imported.

All that is required is a little encouragement,

and as soon as it is understood at the North that good sugar can be procured from sorghum and perhaps corn stalks, the cultivation of sorghum will become much more general, and will displace to a considerable extent the cultivation of corn, for with all deference to Prof. Collier, it is very doubtful if corn is ever grown at the North for the manufacture of sugar until there is something of a change in the character of the corn grown.

At the present time, growing as they do at the North corn whose stalks seldom exceed six or eight feet in height with tassel, it is very probable that they will yield the manufacture of sugar from corn stalks to their Southern brethren, who can grow stalks from twelve to fifteen or more feet in height; and so, if at the sunny South, with what the North can produce from sorghum, can be produced from corn stalks sufficient sugar to meet the demands of the great nation, it is high time that the cultivators of the soil were awakened to a proper sense of the duty that lies at their door. Let there be union of feeling and union of desire in all matters that will tend to the general prosperity of this nation.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

Columbi,a Conn.

The Governor's Message

The final Message of Gov. John Lee Carroll to the Legislature of Maryland, is a lucid, able and patriotic document, calculated to exert a wholesome influence upon the financial condition of the State, if the Legislature will act upon his wise suggestions. We give so much of his message as we can now find room for, touching those questions which seem to affect most directly the farming community. After giving a table of exhibits of the receipts and disbursements of the Tobacco Warehouses, he says:—

"From this it will be seen that the receipts have not been sufficient to meet the disbursements for labor, and to pay the salaries of the inspectors—the deficiency in this respect amounting to \$11,283.11. I renew most earnestly the recommendation made in my last message, to change the present system of the inspection of tobacco.

"I have become entirely satisfied that the abuses are very great; that they have existed for many years, and have been confined to no particular party; that false packing is encouraged by the present law, and that careless inspections, and extravagant employment of labor, have greatly reduced the value of this important product, and increased the cost of its shipment. A careful analysis of the number of hands employed in each house, of the cost of labor, and the amount of work

performed for many years past, presents some curious results, conclusive, in my judgment, of the absurdity of continuing the present system.

"It will be found on examination that the average amount of tobacco received and shipped for seven years, ending September, 1878, has been 52,758 hogsheads per annum, or an aggregate of 369,306 hogsheads.

"The amount expended for labor alone to handle and inspect this tobacco has amounted during this time to \$582,532, or an annual average of about \$76,000.

"This, divided among the five houses, would be \$15,200 for each house, and allowing three hundred working days in the year, would be over \$50 per day, equal to a daily average of twenty-five laborers at \$2 per day, or one hundred and twenty-five laborers for all the houses.

"The shipment of tobacco, according to the above statement for this force of 125 men, would be about one hundred and seventy-six hogsheads per day or one and three-eighths hogsheads per man per day. If this amount of work were doubled, for receiving, inspecting and loosing the tobacco coming in, it would only make the average two and three-quarters hogsheads per day for each man.

"It must be remembered that this remarkably small amount of work and high average pay does not include clerk hire, nail bills, incidentals, or the salaries of the inspectors and clerks. These items amount in the aggregate in the same time of \$326,820 more, or an annual sum of 46,688, equal to an addition of 9,330 for each house, which makes up a total cost of \$81 per day to run it. It will also be found that the total receipts during this time have exceeded the disbursements by only \$69,313, thus leaving the sum of \$35,687 to be paid from the general treasury to make up the salaries of the inspectors, which amount to \$15,000 a year."

His Excellency then gives some of the evidence taken before the committee appointed to investigate this subject in 1870, and concludes his remarks upon this matter with the following expressions of opinions and suggestions:—

"In my judgment, the objections to the system lie still deeper than its connection with politics, bad as that has been found.

"I maintain that the policy of the state should be to interfere as little as possible with the business interests of the community, and that active competition in every branch of trade is the only true restraint which will secure to the public the cheapest and most efficient service.

"This view of the freedom of trade from the

trammels of law and state interference has been generally adopted throughout the country, and there is no reason why Maryland should continue to be bound by a policy which all admit to be imbecile and defective.

"I would recommend that the present law be repealed, and that the warehouses be leased under such restrictions as the Legislature may suggest. If this can be accomplished, a system of private inspection would grow up in the interest of the buyer and the planter, and in time we would have, what works so efficiently in Louisville and Cincinnati, a tobacco exchange, under the control of which the inspectors would be compelled to serve.

"Should the Legislature, after a full examination of the subject, determine to adhere to the present law, I recommend that the inspectors and officers be compelled to look to the receipts alone for the payment of their salaries, and that under no circumstances should they, or anyone connected with the warehouses, have any claim upon the treasury.

"It is a great wrong that the public treasury should be made to pay for any deficiency arising from this source, where the receipts are known to be so abundant.

WEIGHERS OF GRAIN.

"I recommend that the offices of weigher general and weighers of grain be abolished. It is true that, as they exist at present, they are not a charge upon the treasury, but they are of no value whatever to the public, and should not be continued, on the principle that every man ought to be able to attend to his own business, without the assistance of the state.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

"The success of this institution under its present head is all that could be desired.

"The debt incurred under former administrations has long since been paid off, and the college has so risen in the estimation of the public that it is now regarded as one of the most favored seats of learning in the state."

There are other matters incidentally bearing upon the welfare of the agricultural community, which are so well handled by Gov. Carroll, that we may hereafter publish.

A WISE RECOMMENDATION.—*The Live Patron* wisely says: No wiser suggestion was made during the session of the Ohio State grange, than that on the question of unreasonableness of lawyers' fees, that the farmers should avoid having to pay these enormous fees by not employing the lawyers. Ninety-nine out of every hundred law-suits might be avoided if the parties would submit to arbitration by other farmers, who understand the rights of the matter, if they may not the legal quibbles, and have no interest in making a lengthy law-suit for the sake of getting fees. Let farmers give the lawyers a wide birth, and it will put a good deal of money in their pockets.—*Farmer's friend.*

Speech of Hon J. B. Grinnell of Iowa, at the close of the International Dairy Fair, in the City of New York.

Mr. Grinnell said:—

I regret that on so short a notice you have called me to stand in the place of Mr. Everts, the distinguished Secretary of State. But I am not vain enough to attempt to fill his place. It would have detracted nothing from the fame of the learned Cabinet officer, had he advised you of his ability to maintain his Vermont farm by the aid of his salary. Many diplomats and *alias* farmers have even failed in this to prove Ben Franklin's maxim: "He that by the plow woud thrive, must either hold or drive." Theorists have made able contributions to rural literature and have in life's evening gladly hid away to the farm to find pleasures denied a public servant, thus following the example of the historic sage and plowman.

The first impression here no orator can describe in speech. It is a drear night without, and you could only learn it by consulting your watch, for these electric lights as a modern wonder outshine the sun at mid-day, showing plainly the apex of the cheese obelisk, though 40 feet high, and the longest "dairy-maid's needle" ever pointed heavenward. The texture of the butter is seen without a microscope, to give conjecture how exquisite must be its taste, and the girls in attentions to their little industries connected with the rural arts, have not spilled the milk which the old spelling book pictured, on the ground, blasting the hopes of the dairymaid,—they are happy. Nicromancer as farmer, with churn and curd, plies his trade with more than the skill of an *amazan*. All the kine are glossy in this magic gleam, and the water jetting, and music can only briefly cease their flow for the prose of speech.

The learner here passes from theory to accomplishment, seeing the best of one of our great industries from many states—a farmer's college with short sessions and enthusiastic professors taking you to the original sources; the very cows of most approved grades, and genteel manners, in proof that kindness conquers all.

The speaker then eloquently alluded to the proud position of Iowa to-day. He then, with withering sarcasm and amusing anecdote, denounced "Oleomargarine—the bogus article," and concluded with the following eloquent tribute to the newly formed American Agricultural Association:

As an attendant at the National Agricultural meeting in your city, I should acknowledge the compliments bestowed on this new organization. Its members from many states, and numbers eminent in various departments, here have gained inspiration. The Society has planned well, having neither personal or pecuniary ends to attain, but the national advancement by every legitimate method, and you are our instructors. Whether the Fair of 1880 so grand in attraction that the people cannot stay away, and "heaven may look down to see" be held in Chicago, St. Louis or New York, these beautiful herds of milkers and their products as well as their owners, cannot be spared.

Britain's Royal Society, though patronized by Princes and Lords, can be eclipsed by the National American Society enlisting advanced thought, and the famed breeders and producers in generous rivalry. The pampered eastern flocks and their descendants from the western plains, released from nomadic shepherds, must here be folded. President Dillon of the Union Pacific Ry., can furnish a few representative animals from his herd of 18000, grazing in the valley of the Platte, on the mountain gorges of Wyoming, taking a ride for a show on the way to the shambles. Matured beeves of every breed will be stalled by partial owners. Horses with turf record, and unknown to fame; Normans, Clydes, and every servicable brute will lend attractions to the exhibition, outlined by the new President Merryman. From this hour with every general interest in league, success is assured not only in a grand fair, but in that more desirable imparting knowledge, cultivating real fraternity which may add new honors to the American agriculturist, not overlooking these fairest of the family, a central figure in this presence—the dairyman's daughter.

For the Maryland Farmer:

"Eradicating Sorrel."

Messrs. Editors:— Your correspondent, Mr. Ward, of Massachusetts, discusses, in your last issue, this familiar topic. It has been so often handled in your journal, as well as others; that I should be unwilling to controvert his opinions did they not seem to me very misleading, especially to such of your younger readers as may be interested in the chemistry of agriculture.

Mr. Ward's argument is this: "In sorrel the oxalic acid exists in the form of oxalate of potash which is a soluble salt, and the addition of lime causes a change of base and forms an insoluble salt of oxalic of lime, which does not promote the growth of sorrel, while oxalate of potash does; therefore the application of lime to land infested with sorrel, eradicates it."

I am of the opinion, based on the observation of many years, that lime does not necessarily or generally produce the effect here attributed to it, and that it is mere waste to use it for this purpose. I could recount facts enough to fill half your journal that have come to my knowledge from year to year for twenty-five years past, where lime has failed to act as Mr. Ward's chemistry demands. I am obliged, therefore, to leave the chemistry out of the case and to stand by the facts.

I am well aware that many observers have been misled on this point, because in many cases the sorrel does disappear after the application of lime. But it disappears also after any course of cultivation that cleanses and fertilizes the soil, and brings it up to the condition in which clover and the

valuable grasses flourish. The man who has the spirit to lime his land is likely to cultivate well generally. In that case, wherever the lime proves to be a useful fertilizer, and not otherwise, the disappearance of sorrel may be looked for. It disappears not because oxalic acid has changed its base, but because the soil has become fitted for a better class of plants which override and overrule it.

I do not call in question Mr. Ward's chemistry. No doubt the acid ought to change its base under the circumstances, but somehow it does not; or if it does, then the unruly plant is indifferent to the change, and it must be left to the chemist to find where the trouble lies.

I will make two suggestions, however.

Mr. Ward says that oxalic acid, in the form of oxalate of potash, is found *in the plant*. Must it therefore of necessity be *in the soil*? and in the same form? Do chemists know certainly that the plant itself has no power to elaborate this acid? If it is not found in this form *in the soil*, one of the premises of Mr. Ward's argument fails, and his conclusion with it.

But suppose it to be in the soil, and the presence of lime changes the soluble oxalate of potash into the insoluble oxalate of lime. Does the term "insoluble" mean absolutely, or only relatively, insoluble? Do the chemists know certainly that the plant has no power to separate the acid which it needs from the base which it does not need, even though the salt be what is called insoluble, and to form anew the compound as it exists in its structure.

I do not offer these as opinions, but suggestions, to our friends, the chemists, which may, perchance, help them to a new theory. Any time these forty years, this that Mr. Ward sets forth may have been found in our journals. It has been so often weighed in the balance and found wanting, and it seems high time they offer us something more in harmony with well known facts. Very Respectfully,

N. B. WORTHINGTON.

[We endorse what our able correspondent says about Sorrel, from our long experience and observation as to the effects of lime upon this plant-pest. We have seen it growing luxuriantly around lime kilns and lime heaps in a field, where it was not vigorous in other parts of the same field.—EDS. MD. FAR]

THE MARYLAND FARMER for January, published by Ezra Whitman, No. 141 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, Md., Col. W. W. Bowie, associate editor, has been received. The contents are varied and interesting; it contains some fine engravings. Price \$1 per annum in advance, or less in clubs.—*Frederick Examiner.*

For the Maryland Farmer:

**Montgomery County Farmers' Convention
—AT—
Sandy Spring.**

The regular annual meeting of this body took place, as stated in the call, at the Sandy Spring Lyceum, on Monday, Jan. 13, at 1.30 P. M. Although the weather was cloudy and threatening, and rain fell before the proceedings were over, more than 100 farmers, and others, from Montgomery, Prince George, and Howard, counties, and Baltimore City, were present.

The President, Henry C. Hallowell, made his usual excellent address of welcome.

FARMERS' MARKET IN WASHINGTON.

B. H. Miller made a report on a Farmers' Market in Washington.

Asa M. Stabler had written to Philadelphia for an account of their Farmers' Market: no definite action was taken. The object of this movement is to erect in Washington a Farmers' Market and Hotel for the especial accommodation of farmers selling their own produce, such as they have in Philadelphia.

RAILROAD CROSSINGS.

Wm. H. Farquhar, of the Committee on Railroad Crossings, stated that he had been to see the Vice President of the B. & O. R. R., in regard to having a flagman at the Silver Spring and Rock-Crossings, and was courteously received and referred to Master of Transportation, who said he would erect gates if permission could be obtained from County Commissioners, or Turnpike Company, the former body thought they had the power.

Jas. S. Hallowell had seen no flagman there, sometimes, when he was there.

Wm. Jno. Thomas had no hopes of getting gates as obstacles were too great.

The President—Nearly a fatal accident occurred there lately.

S. S. Hallowell moved committee be continued to see if a flagman could not be secured.

Wm. Moore has seen a flagman there within the last three months, and implied that the Company was now attending to the matter.

The President suggested that the committee be continued with discretionary power. Carried,

FEES FROM FARMERS IN WASHINGTON MARKET.

Jas. S. Hallowell reported—Went to see Mr. Baker on the practice of exacting fees from the farmers in the Market, and also had Mr. Riddle's opinion: was satisfied the charge was illegal. Saw Gen. Birney, Counsel of the Market House Company, and represented that a farmer had to pay 75 cents for the privilege of selling a 50-cent pig. He read a letter he proposed should be published

in the Rockville press asking farmers to resist the payment and test its legality; had tried to get several farmers to do so, but they would not stick; he had been ready to go security for a resistant, but couldn't find the necessary pluck.

It was moved that the letter be published in the account of the proceedings in the Rockville papers.

HOGS—CHOLERA—LOOSE OR PENNED.

The Secretary read a report from Jas. F. Barnesley, of Olney, giving results of his management of hogs—No. of hogs, 27; average age, 13 months; average weight, 273 lbs.; widest range, sometimes 80 acres; straw stack for shelter; good water and plenty of it. Common stock, crossed with Berkshire; began to feed new corn Sept. 10.

B. H. Miller—According to the discussions in a recent convention, hog cholera appeared to be more destructive to hogs at large than in pens.

Mr. Kirk, the Sec'y—For the same reason that more corn grows in crooked rows than straight ones. [Laughter.]

CAN WE GATHER ICE AFTER JANUARY 12.

The Secretary read an elaborate record of thermometrical observations, made by R. B. Farquhar, showing that there was still time for cold weather and ice harvest, judging from similar seasons in the past.

**HOW CITY MILKMEN SELL PURE MILK AND
SAVE THE CREAM.**

Jas. S. Hallowell—The city milkmen put the milk they get from farmers in their cans, tap these at the bottom, and when the milk gets too low in one can, draw from another, keeping the cream on top; they then churn and sell the butter.

TAXATION; HAS THE MOVEMENT BEEN SUCCESSFUL

Com. on Taxation, appointed at the last convention to consider means to reduce the burden, composed of Charles Albert, Jas. S. Hallowell, J. W. Magruder, J. H. Strain, presented their report, and it was read by Mr. Abert. The report recited the proceedings of two County Conventions and the State Tax Payers' Convention; he also stated that the committee appointed by the State Convention had held a meeting at Judge Merrick's office, and will report to Annapolis when ready.

E. J. Hall read the resolutions passed at the Rockville County Tax Convention, and asked their endorsement by the body. Carried. It was stated that \$450 was paid in Prince George's Co., by contract printing, where \$4,000 was formerly expended.

The Convention was congratulated upon the beneficial results which had attended the inauguration of the question at the last annual convention, as seen in the adoption of reformed platforms

by the political parties, and the wide spread and organized agitation of the subject in Maryland, and the reduction of the burden which had already been made. So it was voted that the movement had been attended by encouraging results.

SHOULD HAY BE WEIGHED BY STATE SCALES

OR PRIVATE SCALES.

Arthur Stabler—The City Railway Passenger Company of Washington buys hay by its own scales. Does the law make it binding upon farmers to weigh hay at the public scales, and if so, if farmers must weigh hay at the public scales, and must pay for the weighing, ought not the car stables to buy at that weight?

Answer—It was held that the State must have its revenues to discharge its functions, and that citizens must be obedient to the law, and that farmers were liable to a fine of \$20 if they did not weigh at the public scales.

Several members of the convention gave their experience in the matter, showing there was no material difference in the two weights, some loads had weighed more, some less, where the matter had been tried.

MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Miscellaneous business being in order

Prof. J. D. Warfield, of the Maryland State Agricultural College, extended the congratulation of the College to the convention, expressed his pleasure at being with the body and the willingness of the College to co-operate with practical farmers whenever it is in its power, and introduced his colleague,

Professor Grabowskii (of the Chair of Agriculture of the College), who spoke of the theoretical as well as practical sphere of the College, and his desire to make the course thoroughly practical as well as theoretical; the College now has 43 students of agriculture. They go out to farm work; some expect to be superintendents of farms, others to go home and work the home place. The location of the College is not a favorable one on account of the character of the soil; has now 8 head of thorough-bred stock, and has begun on swine; will experiment on 40 plots the coming season, on best fodder plants and best roots; students are taught out among the stock, the orchard, the vineyard; expects to shortly send circulars to farmers, extending the privilege of having their soil, fertilizers, etc., analyzed gratuitously. Prof. Warfield extended an invitation to the Convention to come down and see the College and the operations; could accommodate 150 of them.

The remarks of the Professor were warmly received by the Convention; the President was glad to see and hear them, and hoped the bond between

the farmers and the College would be a strong one. J. S. Hallowell expressed his gratification at the remarks of the gentlemen.

D. L.

[We regret that the balance of the report of this County Meeting, which gives a synopsis of reports of Farmers' Clubs, etc., is, for want of space, postponed to next month's number of the FARMER. This meeting was of a highly interesting and important character, and has become an annual feature in the history of that go-a-head county. It should be imitated by other counties of the State. We thank our esteemed correspondent for his elaborate and well written report.—EDS.]

HORTICULTURAL.

THE REMARKS OF COL. D. S. CURTIS BEFORE THE POTOMAC FRUIT GROWERS OF

WASHINGTON CITY.

(CONCLUDED.)

BLOOMING SHRUBS.

Among the blooming shrubs are the azalias, bush honeysuckles, altheas, kalmias and rhododendrons, sweet brier, choke cherries, spireas, elders, bearberry and wild roses, with numerous other species, most of them blooming in the spring and early summer, but some even later, and of different colors, found in various locations, in the woods, valleys, by the waters and on hills; the azaleas (early honeysuckle) and mountain ivy (rhododendrons) growing mostly on high, rocky places; the former giving handsome, sweet red blossoms, in clusters, in May and June; the latter (several varieties) growing on rocky ridges and mountain sides, giving red and white blossoms, in corymbs, very showy, during June and July. They are often called mountain laurel. The elders and spireas, of several varieties; growing on low grounds, near water courses, are very pretty bloomers, white and red, from June to August.

SOME OF THE TREE BLOOMERS.

Some of the more conspicuous flowering trees, which give blooms from early spring to late autumn, white, yellow and red, in different localities, high and low, are the cercis, or red bud, and shad-bush (aronia), which bloom very early; the former red, in March, and the latter white, in April, but both showing blossoms before foliage. Then comes the dogwood (*cornus*), large white blossoms, in March and April. Then magnolias and tulip tree (*liriodendron*), both fragrant and showy; but there are none, among the hundreds, which present a more gorgeous and beautiful spectacle than our common crab apple tree (*pyrus coronaria*), when clothed in its full bloom of rich red and white.

blossoms in May; it is very attractive to bees. The thorn trees and black haws are very handsome, all of these like rich, low lands. Basswood (*Tilia*), gives pretty, fragrant blossoms, yellow or buff color, rich in honey and much liked by bees, from which they make much excellent honey. Among the handsome and curious flowering trees we must notice the showy fringe tree or flowering ash (*Chionanthus*), found in this region, giving its white spray-like blooms in March or April.

AQUATIC OR WATER PLANTS.

There are many handsome and fragrant flowering plants, native to the waters of the Potomac and its branches, of which only a few can here be named. The white water-lily (*Nymphaea odorata*), is a very attractive flower; the yellow pond nephur lily and several others; but the most splendid and beautiful of all is the *Nelumbium luteum*, with white and yellow blossoms, very fragrant and largest *aquatic* bloom known in this country (and second in size only to the magnolia). It is called the American lotus, being the only American species of the sacred and famous lotus of the Nile. The pickerel weed (*Pontederia*) is a handsome blue flower, spike or plume form, two to three feet high, and very attractive as it rises above the water and green foliage. Then there is the iris family, *fleur de lis*, or flowering flags; *sagittarias* and others, all worthy of culture in our ponds, streams and artificial lakes. All these thrive from Lake Erie to Gulf of Mexico.

We have mentioned scarcely one in a thousand of our charming wild flowers, but enough is suggested to give some idea of the richness and endless variety of our native flora, and to show how desirable it is that more attention should be given to their preservation in our gardens and lawns. They should receive more attention—not that we should give up our charming exotics and foreign flowers, but increased attention to our indigenous plants of all kinds.—Some people seem to believe and act upon the proverb that “the farther the fetch the greater the value,” giving extravagant regard to “foreign things” and equally marked disregard for our home beauties, just as government and rich people send abroad for too many foreign goods and fabrics, which they ought to buy at home and sustain home production and manufacture.

There is one interesting object may be considered in the study of flowers, that is to find and point out their *individuality* in order to *personify* them, and observe the nice analogy between human and plant characteristics in order to be able the more readily to distinguish closely the slight differences and resemblances. For instance some

plants have inodorous flowers, and nearly covered by profuse foliage; they are like over-dressed people but destitute of mental development. Some flowers attract by form and color but have no perfume; they compare to persons conspicuous for their outside show of jewelry and dashy colors, but with no useful habits. Then we find other blooms that unite all the other attractions with perfume and healing qualities; these represent people of true culture, genius, generosity and a kindly disposition to aid those who may need and deserve their kind offices.

And there is noticeably a great difference in size and other characteristics between various members of the same family, of flowers as with different members of the same human family. For instance, take a New England family—some of its members are large, vigorous and noted, while others are small, frail, and retiring; so with the plant family of lobelias; one is tall, large, and conspicuous, as the “scarlet cardinal flower” *lobelia cardinalis*; while the small blue *lobelia* is hardly noticed. Another instance: take a western family, in which one member will be found to be tall, robust and stalwart, and another is small, delicate, almost dwarfed; to this may be compared the composite family of plants, in which is found the tall towering sunflower, and the low creeping dandelion, almost hidden in grass at your feet.

The resemblances are so light, or the dissimilarity so wide, in regard to the different members of some families, of both plant and human, that only by careful analysis or scientific examination can the facts be positively ascertained, and in just such contingencies lies the value and necessity of careful scientific study and investigation. The more prominent resemblances in all families are apparent to even the casual observer; such as the dark hair and eyes, the hooked nose and brawny shoulders of father and son indicate the relationship; the wavy auburn ringlets, soft blue eyes and graceful forms of those two women bespeak them mother and daughter. With the pink and rose family, and some others, there is no trouble in determining correctly every member. So with the thistle family (*Carduus*), all of them have points of sameness so very pointed that no one will mistake the relationship even on short acquaintance; and no doubt all of us have, at some time, met with some humans of similar characteristics—soothing poppies at a little distance, but found to be thistles at nearer approach; but, no doubt, you are all your own botanists, in this matter, and I will not be too inquisitive on those *points*.

All can pursue this matter of analyses and analogy of human and floral comparisons to any

extent that individual inclination may dictate. I will conclude with only a few further suggestions, as, no doubt, your feelings already cry halt! to me; but the subject is by no means exhausted, though your patience very naturally may be. Whether my imperfect paper will tend to useful results you are the proper judges. At least it opens the way for yourselves to take up the work and advance with happy improvement, and may you never lack pleasing incentives to reach pleasant results, is my hope for your endeavors.

The subject is as broad and comprehensive as it is beautiful and beneficial; and if this imperfect effort to-night has even to a slight degree, increased your regard for the brilliant native flora of this genial Potowmack region, my fullest expectations are realized; and be sure, my friends, all who now honor me with their presence, have my sincere wishes that their paths may constantly be spread with fragrant flowers, but seldom with nettles—only when you may need them, and they will do you most good, and then may the balm always follow the bane.

For the Maryland Farmer:

Quince Culture.

I gave you last year, (April No.) some account of my experiments in quince culture. I want now to call attention to the matter again by reporting some of the results of another year's experience. The average yield in 1878, from trees five years, from the cuttings was about half a peck. The same trees yielded in 1879, an average of nearly a peck. The quality of the fruit was indicated by the price at \$2.50 a bushel in 1878, here where they grow. In 1876, the first 140 were sold by count, like oranges, at 2½ cents a piece, with \$2.50 a bushel for the rest of the crop. There is no part of my farm that pays anything like the profit I realize from that devoted to my quinces.

The quince blight, resembling the well-known pear blight, I have found to require a vigorous use of the knife; and where it affects the whole tree, as it does sometimes, I dig the trees out and replace with healthy trees. Sometimes one side of a tree will be blighted to the ground, and the other side remain healthy. I got a good yield from a tree of this description, that had all the diseased top cut out, and the blighted side split down and removed. It looks as if it would grow over the split. Another that had full two-thirds of the tree cut off at the ground, produced on the remaining part some of the finest of the year's crop.

The plants raised from the cuttings of March, 1878, were set in November of that year where I

desired them to grow permanently, according to the plan I gave you, and have made a growth that is truly marvellous. One of them, that was cut back in the pruning that prepared for the growth of 1879, to within six inches of the ground, sent out four shoots, two of which grew five feet and about an inch, and the other two are but little less.

I think the average growth to every bud that made a shoot on some 50 or 60 trees, is about two feet. A friend looking at them in the fall when the second year's growth was nearly completed, said if he had seen them in a nursery, he should certainly have thought them to be four years old trees. Some half dozen of them blossomed when they began their second year's growth. I do not intend to let them bear until they have grown four years; then they will have the vigor to make a crop large enough to afford good profit, and not over tax the trees. Just think of a little tree not much higher than a man's head, yielding 47 fine quinces when only five years old, when 33 of them filled a peck measure as long as they would lie on. And then, when only six years off the cutting reaching up to 86—over a dollar's worth of fine quinces.

Let all who will succeed remember to prune vigorously every year before the buds swell in the spring, and use the largest of the prunings to propagate more trees. The wood that is two or three years old, will be found even better than last year's growth for this purpose, being more vigorous in pushing new shoots, and sending out very strong roots. Cut so as to set about a foot in the ground, and you can hardly fail of a growing tree to every cutting.

One of my neighbors with a tree about the size of mine, complained of the smallness of the crop; but by pruning it very thoroughly, as I directed, had as fine a crop this last year as I ever saw grow. The largest weighing fifteen ounces. I saw the tree after a part had been gathered, and counted 60 beautiful quinces yet on the tree. They would have measured at least half a bushel. The prunings had been planted as cuttings and produced also some good trees.

W. W. MEECH.

New Jersey, January 6th, 1880.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—We would say to the farmers of this county, if you want a cheap agricultural monthly for 1880, send one dollar to E. Whitman, 141 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, and have the MARYLAND FARMER sent to your address. The December number is excellent, and, in fact, we can say the same of every number we receive—it is really invaluable to the farmer.—*Somerset Herald.*

THE DAIRY.*For the Maryland Farmer.***A Great Creamery.**

HOW BUTTER IS MADE IN OHIO. THE LARGEST
SINGLE CREAMERY IN THE WEST AND
PERHAPS IN THE WORLD.

AURORA STATION, OHIO.

To those who live outside the dairy limits and who have never witnessed the vast operations necessary to carry on the dairy business, and the machinery that intersects all the methods, it sounds almost fabulous to narrate the constantly recurring scenes that every day passes before ones eyes, and has lost all novelty, and has become to be accepted as "so, because it is so!"

A few rods from my house at the base of a hill that keeps the river from "running over," is a small flat of a couple of acres in extent, and a few feet above high water. The face of the hills are sand stone ledges from which flow copious springs of the coldest water, indicating about 50 degrees Fht. Here the huge buildings are erected, that constitute Silver Creek creamery.

The territory that furnishes the milk for this creamery is of considerable extent, and comprises something more than half a township, and a more prosperous and contented set of farmers than those who send milk here would be hard to find in the North. These farms are usually of about 200 acres in extent, and are generally devoted to mixed farming dairying only forming one of the revenues; grain, fat cattle, sheep, etc., also occupying part of the time and care of these farmers.

The dairies vary consequently from 50 to 100 cows, but 30 is about the average, and as to the breeds, none are prominent, get the best cow you can, is the rule.

The milk of these dairies is put immediately into a can, with a large movable cover, and is consequently not taken out the house, and the dairy work therefore obviated. A huge platform wagon next comes along the street, stopping at each farm yard and "loads" on this can, and as the "milk hauler" nears the factory, his load often approximates a dozen cans or so, of all sizes, from a 10 to a 60 gallon.

Arriving at the factory, each team is unloaded in the order in which they arrive. The team is driven upon a "dump" so as to have the milk work down hill in all its future changes, and thus avoid lifting. The can is now placed in a chair, which is attached to a small "crane," and is lifted off the wagon, the cover removed, and it is "tipped up"

and the contents turned into a receiving can when it is weighed, the amount recorded, and by the means of a long tin pipe or "conductor," it is conveyed to the vats. These are long tin boxes encased in wooden vats, between which water or steam can be passed as desired.

These vats hold 2,000 pounds or 500 gallons, and when nearly full, the operation of making butter commences.

If it is hot weather, in addition to the water about the enclosed spaces of the vat, the temperature of the milk is still further reduced by a gang of tin pipes all connected, which is put into the milk, and a stream of water forced through them. If the flies are troublesome, a netting is spread over the vat, and the milk is left undisturbed for 24 hours. The cream which is about an inch thick, is then removed with a tin scoop somewhat resembling a dust pan, and when taken off is put in tanks to develope "acidity," which it will do in about 24 hours more.

The churn is a monitor affair, and churns about 100 gallons at a time, and is driven by steam power. The cream is churned at about 55°, and as soon as it begins to brisk and show buttermilk, a strong brine is added to aid in a perfect separation of milk and butter. The butter is then slightly worked over, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ of an ounce of salt added to each pound of butter. The butter is now taken and passed in the butter house, a stone double walled building, furnished with an abundance of cold water, about 50 pounds of butter being placed in a "pan," and set into a shallow trunk of running water, and cloths placed over them, and a liberal piece of ice laid upon the top of each. The next day the butter is put in a butter-worker, a box provided with a rolling lever, to squeeze out the remaining buttermilk. Then a trifle more salt is added, the butter thoroughly worked, and if necessary, the buttermilk is "absorbed" with damp cloths.

As fast as worked the butter is put into 50 lb. tubs, a thin layer of salt, and a cloth, being placed on the top of each before putting on the head, and the "golden globules" are now ready for the market.

On one day of each week the Railway Company furnished a refrigerator car for New York, and the butter is taken to the car before sunrise, and 36 hours after, it is delivered on Greenwich Street.

At this factory the milk receipts each day during the "season," foot up over 20,000 pounds, and in the months of June, July and August they aggregate 3,200,000 pounds. The storage capacity at this creamery comprises five 500 gallon vats, and requires a force of a foreman and five helpers, and

if "bad weather" or any similar circumstances occur, they work about 18 hours.

The skim-milk is manufactured in "Ohio Flats," and is sold at any figure; the butter being the "result" from which dividends are computed.

The milk is usually purchased by contract for the entire season, Mr. F. Hurd, the owner of this particular creamery, paying a uniform price of seven cents for ten pounds of milk for the entire summer. Other buyers pay by the month, to be governed by the price of cheese, while others work upon the co-operative system, each having its advocates.

In Ohio there are nearly fifty of these creameries working up the product of 30,000 cows, returning to the farmers an income of fully \$750,000. J. G.

[We ask the attention of our Southern readers to the above interesting article, and hope that a proper consideration of the subject will induce them or some of our farmers to imitate the persevering industrious enterprises of our fellow farmers in other States, who have realized the important fact that they cannot rely upon special crops, but must diversify the labors of a farm into many branches to make farming pay well in these times of reform and progress. What is done profitably in Ohio, can surely be more profitably done in Maryland and other border States, having equal advantages of soil and climate, and far nearer and cheaper facilities to reach the great marts of this country.—EDS.]

Adulteration of Milk.

For the protection of the thousands of milk consumers, and the honest dairymen, it is important that every large city should have milk inspectors and stringent laws or ordinances to deter those who are mean enough to adulterate the milk they sell. The Board of Health of New York city ask for the coming year an additional appropriation to enable them to employ three additional milk inspectors, and they assign as a reason for this appropriation the following remarkable statement:

"The prevention of the adulteration of milk in this city is one of the most important duties of the Board of Health. The 130,000 children under five years of age are largely dependent upon milk as food, and if this milk is not of proper quality, they are either made sick, or at least fail to get their proper nourishment, and consequently fall unnecessary victims to the diseases of childhood. We have not been able from our appropriation to provide more than one inspector; and considering the amount of time he is obliged to spend in court, his actual work of inspection makes but little impression in this great city, and the traffic in adulterated milk, although somewhat checked, still continues. Not only do citizens demand a proper inspection of milk, but the honest milk-dealers

assert that it is almost impossible for them to compete with those who dishonestly sell an adulterated and inferior article. The magnitude of this fraud is enormous, and we feel safe in saying that our citizens are defrauded, by the sale of skimmed and watered milk, of \$10,000 per day. We ask, for the protection of this important article of food, that we may have three additional inspectors, making four in all, at the additional cost to the city of \$3,000 per annum."

Unsalted Butter.

A short time since we referred to the increased use of unsalted butter in this country, and as a sequel to what was then said, it may be well to call attention to the circumstance that a process has recently been invented in England, by which butter of this kind can be kept certainly for months and possibly for years, without apparent deterioration. An experiment made proved that fresh butter, when treated with this preservative, could remain exposed to the action of the air for three months, and at the end of that time it is hardly possible to detect the difference between it and the newly made article. Some experts at butter-tasting, it is said, thought that it lacked something of the aroma which butter fresh from the dairy possesses, and that an exceedingly slight trace of salt in it would impart to it more character. But for all practical purposes the article, at the end of three months, was as good as at the beginning, although under ordinary conditions it would have been considered unfit for eating at the end of ten days. The "preparation," as it is called, by the use of which this result is obtained, is at present a secret. It is an odorless, tasteless, and harmless antiseptic, and has also the merit of exceeding cheapness; so much so that the quantity needed to preserve a pound of butter costs in England about half a penny.

It is worked into the butter directly after churning, and then all that is required is that the manufactured article be kept in a tolerably cool place. The change which this discovery promises to bring about can hardly fail to be an important one, as it will tend to equalize the cost of the best table butter throughout the entire year. Hitherto, in the winter months, the price of even mildly-salted butter has been high, for the reason that that made in the summer for winter consumption could only be kept pure by the admixture of a large quantity of salt. The same is true of what is known as cooking butter, which, as it is frequently made in a hurried and imperfect manner, is only checked from early putrefaction by the excessive use of saline preservative. Now, if salt is no longer necessary, butter may be good or poor, but in either case its merits or faults will not need to be disguised under a covering of salt. It is also intimated that the same preparation can be applied to the preserving of fresh meat, and if this proves to be true, its effect upon the trade and dietary customs of the world will make the discovery one of the most important of the century.—*N. Y. Times.*

THE
MARYLAND FARMER,
A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture & Rural Economy.
EZRA WHITMAN,
Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

141 West Pratt Street
BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY 1, 1880.

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The large circulation of the Maryland Farmer makes it one of the best mediums for advertisers of all classes. Its circulation will be largely increased by our reduction in the Subscription Price, and hence add to its advantages as a medium for advertisers. The terms of advertising will remain as heretofore.

The Maryland Farmer will be read this year by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory.

We call attention to our Reduction in Price of Subscription.

TERMS.

One Copy, one year in advance,	8 100
Club Rates, 6 copies one year in advance,	5 00
" " 20 "	15 00
" " 50 "	35 00
" " 100 "	60 00

Subscription Price for One Year, if not paid in advance, will be at the old rate, \$1 50 per year, and positively no deduction.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS

For those who may canvass for New Subscribers.

Any person who sends us 100 Subscribers, at \$1.00, will receive the world-renowned Howe Sewing Machine, with all the latest improvements. Value, \$50.00.

Any person who sends us 80 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 Young America Corn and Cob Mill, worth \$40.00.

Any person who sends us 50 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 of the celebrated Wheat Fans, which has taken nearly 200 premiums. Value, \$28.00.

Any person who sends us 25 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Roland Plow. Value, \$12.00.

Any person who sends us 15 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Farm Bell. Value, \$6.00.

Any person who sends us 12 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Remington Iroquois Revolver, full plated, Ivory. Value, \$4.00.

Any person who sends us 6 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Nickel-Plated Revolver, Long Fluted Cylinder. Value \$2.50.

THESE ARTICLES WE WARRANT TO BE FIRST-CLASS.

It will not be necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time. For instance, if any one wants the Mill we offer for 80 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he chooses, and we will allow him a whole year to finish the club.

GRAPE GROWING, ON THE SINGLE POLE SYSTEM, OR HOW THEY ARE CULTIVATED ON THE UPPER RHINE VALLEY, by A. H. Hofer. A treatise every grape grower should have. Price 50 cents, at our office or sent by mail postage paid.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Are Agricultural Fairs Productive of Good ?

This is a question which is often seriously asked by the sceptic or the unthinking. For nearly forty years we have attended the Agricultural Fairs in the East, West, and South, and therefore have had some opportunity of learning something of their workings and the results of their efforts. Notwithstanding there have been many failures and sometimes entire dissolutions, owing to the many difficulties that each and all have had to encounter, yet we cannot recall a single one which did not, however short its career, do some good toward the advancement of agriculture by increasing the interest of the public in the cause itself or in other avocations connected with agriculture.

If an Agricultural Fair has but one exhibition, it does its immediate community good because it creates rivalry, and men who never before would spend a cent in purchasing a fine animal or fowl, stimulated by the hope of possessing a premium animal, will purchase a cow, or bull, or chicken, for exhibition, and thus a noted breed is brought into a neighborhood where such a breed was unknown. This man's example is followed, and in a short time where an improved breed of cattle, sheep, hogs, or poultry was never before heard of, much less seen, different breeds of domestic animals of best breeds are brought in, and not only is the native stock improved by infusion of new blood, but a higher grade of excellence is demanded by the breeders, and imperceptibly, in time, the value of the stock of that vicinity is increased ten fold. People thus enlightened about stock, begin to think of improved machinery, and from one thing to another they grow from a set of sluggish followers in the old time ruts, into an enquiring, energetic, reading, and improving people, until old prejudices are removed and a spirit of energetic determination to succeed seizes upon many, and a new era dawns upon a heretofore satisfied class, who were content to make a living—season permitting—upon 4 barrels of corn per acre, and satisfied with half a dozen cows giving them milk and butter enough for their limited wants—now struggle at half manual labor to reach 16 barrels of corn per acre, and are dissatisfied if one cow does not give milk and butter enough for a whole family the year round. The idea before they read and informed themselves that a cow ought in a year to yield twice or three times her live weight in weight of milk, or that a cow in a year is not worth her keep if she does not yield 200 lbs of butter, was so preposterous that they looked upon it as a Munchausen tale. We knew a distinguished man once who had never read about

improved poultry, declare a person to be a great story-teller because he heard him say that a pair of show geese weighed 56 lbs., and a turkey gobbler weighed 40 lbs., and had seen a young Bramah fowl only three months old that weighed, dressed, seven pounds. Two months afterward, that great man attended a cattle show, and was satisfied he himself was the fool, and that the other man was not a falsifier.

There are many reasons why agricultural societies do not flourish. They are very difficult to manage, from the very nature of their conformation. They are necessarily devoid of that stern discipline which governs most of the other great associations or corporations, like those of the Military, Religious, or secret societies, or even school and mercantile associations. There are so many occasions for individuals to feel themselves aggrieved, as for instance; a premium is offered for a single article, and there may be twenty competitors for the one prize, nineteen of whom must be defeated, each one believing his exhibit was the best, and perhaps all go forth denouncing the association, and thus the institution is scandalized and brought into unpopularity. Sometimes men, well meaning and honest, but inexperienced and incapable of the fulfillment of their duties, are selected as officers, and their errors become so glaring, that the society fails, and dies, because of the want of sufficient nerve and energy in the community to persevere and reform the wrong unintentionally committed, and try the thing over again. There are many other reasons why these societies often fail to meet public expectation, but we have neither space nor inclination to rehearse them, or dilate upon the various ways in which each and all of the State, County and Township Societies, and the Clubs and Granges, do immense good. We know that while there are thousands of big and little agricultural associations, which are each contributing to the general weal, that there is great room for improvement in each one, and a wide field yet unfilled for more of like character in aims and purposes. It is a subject of gratulation, that if one dies, another soon springs up in its place, like the human race, one dies, and his place is soon filled, and sometimes for the better. The old U. S. Agricultural Society once flourished, and perished in the debris of the unhappy Civil war; and a new organization has been formed lately, styled "The American Agricultural Association," which numbers among its members distinguished and ardent friends of Agriculture in every State and Territory in the Union. Not a month old, it has already shown how zealous it is in forwarding the broad and expansive claims of the farmers, to

the consideration of the State Legislatures and of Congress, upon National subjects that interest the whole people of the land, such, for instance, as the prevention of the spread, and the final stamping out, of the dreaded cattle disease, Pleuro Pneumonia, by stringent laws and proper appropriations. If the efforts of this association are sustained by the public authorities, a disaster involving millions of dollars, and may be, almost the total destruction of our cattle, will be avoided. The herds of England and other countries have been decimated, and the like will soon be enacted here, unless the means of prevention are at once taken.

KERRY CATTLE FOR BEEF.—Our thanks are due to the Hon. H. D. Farnancis, of Harford county, for a New Year's gift of a large cut of sirloin, from a beef of the Kerry breed of cattle. Several friends partook of it, and all pronounced it the *best beef they ever had eaten*—the tenderloin was as delicate as the breast of a canvass-back. We do not question, like the South-down breed for mutton, that the small Kerry breed of cattle are superlatively adapted for choice beef, but while much may be due to the breed, still much is due to the skill of the breeder and his mode of fattening, to produce such tender, juicy, *marbled* meat. While it was very fat, there were no lumps of fat, here and there, as we see in disgustingly fat show-beef—it was distributed in small grains all through the lean, even better than the old woman's beef-cow, which had alternate layers of fat and lean. It did credit to the breed of cattle, and perhaps more to the skill and judgment of the distinguished farmer-lawyer of Harford. We do not hesitate in saying that it was the most luscious meat we have eaten for many, *many* years, and those, ladies and gentlemen, who enjoyed it, concur in this decision.

JERSEY MILK.—The peculiarity of Jersey milk says Dr. Sturtevant in *Land and Home*, seems to lie in its abundance of cream, in its indigestibility as compared to other milks. It is a well known complaint among Jersey breeders, over that of the breeders of other stock, that their calves scour to a troublesome degree, which is ascribed to the richness of the milk. *The cause at the bottom is the difficulty of digesting the curd of the Jersey milk.* Indeed, it seems probable that a delicate infant can scarcely be reared on Jersey milk; and that oftentimes illness and death among children brought up on the bottle, are to be ascribed to this injurious effect of the kind of milk used, rather than to its quality. Jersey milk is the milk popular with grown up people in rugged health. The Jersey is, hence, not the family cow to be praised, if by family we include the infants and growing children.

For the Maryland Farmer:

One Hundred Bushels of Corn to the Acre.

To raise the above is much more easily said than done, although some claim to have done so, and some theorists say that all you have to do, is, to apply their chemical mixture in the proper quantity, and success is sure. Regarding the latter, it is hardly necessary to say, to any practical farmer, that such talk is nonsense, and should be regarded as a reckless assertion, notwithstanding it has been advocated by some chemists of considerable reputation. That a hundred bushels of corn can be raised to the acre, there can be no doubt, but to do it, we need something better than following the advise of those who have fertilizers to sell, or who invent compounds that look very well in theory, as some of Prof. Stockbridge's do, but experiments made by practical farmers, speak in a different language entirely; *i. e.* proven to be a perfect failure as the writer well knows, having seen repeatedly the uncertainty of chemical compounds, and heard from others who had also signally failed with them.

For twelve years we have tried to bring up a poor farm to fifty bushels to the acre, and just here will say it has been no easy task, although nearly all the first-class fertilizers have been tried, and in some cases to an apparent injury. Corn is quite different from any other grain; the crop must be made within ninety to a hundred days, and during that time, must have all the heat and air that is possible to reach the roots, along with a due proportion of rain, and to secure this, the mechanical or physical condition must be in proper trim, and I know of but one way to obtain this condition, and that is by a well-rotted pile of manure. On a poor farm the latter is not easily obtained, yet, much can be accomplished by one not afraid of work; and to show how the pile may be increased, I propose to repeat here the plan pursued by the writer.

It is not necessary that all the manure should pass through the animal, on the contrary every blade of grass and every weed will make an active fertilizer; indeed, anything that has ever had vegetable life in it, for let it be of the lowest order of plants, there will be mineral elements in them necessary for the growth of a higher order of plants; again, there will be carbon (charcoal) in the plant, which, as will appear further on, is equally important in bringing about the physical condition of the soil spoken of above. To secure both the carbon and mineral elements, is the thing to be accomplished; the others, water and ammonia

can be obtained in the usual way ; and the latter, not by the application of offensive putrid animal matter.

First, to erect a shelter for the manure is both cheap and simple, the object of which is to keep the rains and snows from washing and cooling the pile, for heat is absolutely important to accomplish the desired end. Near the stable or barn door, posts can be planted with rough plates on them, say twelve feet apart, on them rails are placed near enough to support whatever can be gathered to afford the protection, and add from time to time to the pile of manure. Mine, this season, is covered with twelve wagon loads of rag weed, cut from a field after harvest ; usually it has been covered with corn fodder, and fed from time to time during the winter, and when well crushed by the cattle, placed on the pile after a fresh supply from the barn had been placed on it : that is, a layer of fresh dung, and then a layer of corn stalks, weeds, &c. A heat thus started, being protected from the rain, will keep up all winter, no matter how cold the surrounding atmosphere may be ; I have seen it 80 to 100 degrees when it was near zero a foot from the pile. The mingling of the stalks and weeds prevents too much heat, but sufficient to keep up the fermentation and evaporate the water set free by the rupture of the organized matter during the process, and deposited in the mass is the carbon, charcoal, and the mineral elements, such as lime, potash, phosphate, &c., all of which, more or less, are found in any plant you may find growing on the farm, let it be thistle dock, rag weed, or clover ; hence, the reader must see the necessity of securing all such as may be found growing, which along with the stable manure, as a ferment, can be brought into active use in time for the corn crop, which when the time comes, can be hauled out with much less labor than when you have the whole stalks, &c., about in their normal condition, except loaded with water, from soaking all winter in a wet barn-yard, and really little use in time for the corn.

In the treatment spoken of, the stalks, cobs, straw, &c., disappears and settles down into a black mass, much of which would pass through a drill ; in this way all soils are formed. The decay of roots, leaves, plants, mosses, &c. in the land, undergo the same process, only less rapid, but equally certain, the water passing to its old home and the charcoal remaining behind for a certain purpose, acting in harmony with the mineral elements.

How does this carbon act ? First, mechanically, by destroying the adhesion of the particles of

clay and sand ; secondly, it is a well known fact that it has great capacity for absorbing gases : i. e. air, containing 78 per cent of nitrogen, and the usual per cent. of carbonic acid and oxygen ; hence it will be seen has a double duty to perform. To grow a hundred bushels of corn, 5,600 pounds of organic matter in the seed alone, to say nothing of the blades, stalks and cobs, nearly all of which must come from the air ; carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen, it will be apparent to all, that the land must be in proper condition to draw from the air such a large amount of gaseous matter. Besides, the two duties of the carbon, spoken of, a third one is worth mentioning, especially in some soils where it prevails to an extent as to make the soil black, and when such is the case, the absorption of heat promotes the growth of the corn.

In conclusion, will say that during the past season, my corn field was treated as follows : In a furrow a good supply of the black manure was placed, and thinly covered with the soil, and on this the corn was dropped by a Hoosier drill, intended to be 16 inches apart, the drill covering the corn ; the rows $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet between. I have never had such a growth, and seldom seen such among the largest crop growers of the country, and I have been among those who talk of having 15 to 20 barrels—75 to 100 bushels. I found about the average ear would take 85 to the bushel, being carefully shelled and weighed. Supposing each stalk to produce such an ear, how near to a hundred will appear by the following calculation : An acre, planted as described, would give 7,379 hills, which, divided by 85, would yield 86 bushels of shelled corn. Owing to a heavy storm, much of it was thrown down at the very time it ought to have been standing, and owing to it being late corn, the replants failed to mature ; hence the above yield was not realized, yet a very satisfactory crop obtained, and the same process is now under way, and I hope to obtain something from my rag weeds, salt grass bedding, used along with leaves from the woods, and much other matter cut from the fence corners and waste places. You, Mr. Editor, afforded the writer much pleasure by a visit during the corn season and had an opportunity of seeing it. The same field in corn, 1867, failed to produce respectable nubbins. A. P. S.
Rock Hall, Kent county, Md.

[We had the pleasure of seeing the field of corn spoken of by our esteemed correspondent, after it had endured a drought of some duration, and yet the crop was so superior we predicted it would yield certainly 80 bushels per acre.—Eps.]

The United States Agricultural Society.

The United States Agricultural Society held its twenty-eighth annual meeting at the office of its secretary in Washington, on the 14th of January, Vice President Randolph, of Texas, presiding. After an announcement that Hon. Frederick Smyth declined a re-election as president, the following officers for the ensuing year were elected: Hon. John Merryman, of Maryland, president; a vice president for each State and Territory; Frederick Smith, of New Hampshire; U. S. Townsend, of Ohio; Wm. S. King, of Minnesota; A. L. Kennedy, of Pennsylvania; Robert Beverly, of Virginia; N. M. Curtis, of New York, and A. M. Fullford, of Maryland, executive committee; Ben Perley Poor, of Massachusetts, secretary, and Wm. S. French, of New Hampshire, treasurer. A resolution was passed instructing the newly elected officers to take such measures as they may deem expedient to revive the operations of the society, which were interrupted by the civil war.

Washington County Agricultural Society,

Held at Hagerstown on the 14th of January a meeting of its Directors, and determined to hold its twenty-fifth exhibition, commencing on Tuesday, Oct. 19th, 1880. Hon. A. R. Boteler, of Charlestown, W. Va., who delivered the address on the occasion of the first exhibition, has consented to deliver the address on the occasion of the silver celebration.

IMPROVING THE VARIETIES OF WHEAT.—The State convention of millers at Harrisburg, Pa., adopted a proposition that a committee composed of one member from each county in the State be appointed to agitate among millers and farmers a movement looking to the improvement of the varieties of wheat and the establishment of an equitable value of the cereal at the mills. The executive committee of the association was authorized to carry out the above views.

AN ENORMOUS PRODUCT.—William Orton, of Lancaster county, Pa., has just sold 15,000 stalks of tobacco, the product of three acres of ground, for \$1,920. This is considered the largest yield and best sale of tobacco ever made in Lancaster county.

THE MARYLAND FARMER came in next, saluted and opened its budget, a full budget, too, its sides bulging out, and the contents pressing hard against the cover. An A 1 number.—*Nelson Co. Examiner.*

Montgomery County Farmers' Convention.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
JANUARY 19th, 1880.

Messrs. Editors: — I send you a note of the Farmers' Convention held at Sandy Spring, Jan. 12. The spirit of progress has so thoroughly imbued that favored section that all its undertakings are crowned with success. Informal meetings of representative farmers have been held from year to year, until large gatherings from adjoining sections concentrate for discussion. At the last meeting the best representative men of Montgomery and some influential men from Howard participated in the debate. The President of the Convention, Mr. Henry C. Hallowell, having sent a circular to me, Col. Grabowski and myself were sent by the President as delegates.—Interesting reports of the three Clubs of Sandy Spring were read. Mr. Wm. Henry Farquhar, of the Senior Club, gave a spicy and statistical record of the average productions of his Club. Mr. Thomas read the report of the Enterprise Club. The average yield of wheat exceeded the Senior's somewhat; and Mr. Frank Miller gave the record of the Juniors—a more encouraging report still.—Much rivalry and a plenty of good spirit seemed to characterize these interesting reports, and I am sorry that I can not give you the exact figures. An individual report upon "Hogs" was given by Mr. Barnesley that gave a splendid average, correct data, and much encouragement to pork raisers. He opposes the plan of confining hogs, but prefers large range.

The discussion of the subject of taxation took up the greater portion of the afternoon. Mr. Abert read an able report, and Mr. John Hall argued in favor of its adoption. Mr. Bell, taking exception to the proposed plan for the collection of taxes, thought there could be no improvement. The resolutions, the same as those adopted by the Convention at Rockville, were then adopted. Then followed a discussion upon questions before the Convention. The weight of argument favored the plan of gradually deepening the tilth of the soil by successive plowings.—Mr. Roger Farquhar gave an instance where he had found the roots of the corn stalk between three and four feet in the soil.—Many favored fall plowing, but the largest yield reported by the Convention was from May plowings. The sentiment of the Convention was rather in favor of Spring plowing.—Mr. Wm. H. Farquhar thought farmers are not judicious in slighting the oat crop. It was decided that it does not pay to raise pork at five cents a pound, no to keep fattening hogs over winter.

The President having called upon me, I announced the readiness of the Agricultural College to join the farmers of that intelligent community in the discussion of all subjects of interest to the cause represented. I then introduced Prof. Grabowski, of the Chair of Agriculture, who gave an interesting account of the progress made in the theoretical department. Large and instructive specimens in geological, mineralogical, and zoological science have been collected. In the department of seeds splendid exhibits can now be shown, whilst skeletons of the horse, cow, and the human form give abundant aid in comparative anatomy.—Speaking of the practical work of the department, the Professor cited that road-making, tree-planting, hauling, gardening, and other kinds of labor were already engaging the students.—A large class of 42 were studying the Science in the class room. In conclusion he gave notice that he would extend an invitation to the farmers to meet for further discussion and lunch at the College, some time in the early spring.

In addition to those already mentioned, Messrs. John R. Clarke, Hopkins Pue, and Wm. Clark, of Howard county; Messrs. Jas. S. Hallowell, Stabler, Brooke, and others were present, and took part in the discussion. Yours Most Truly,

J. D. WARFIELD.

Tri-County Agricultural Society.

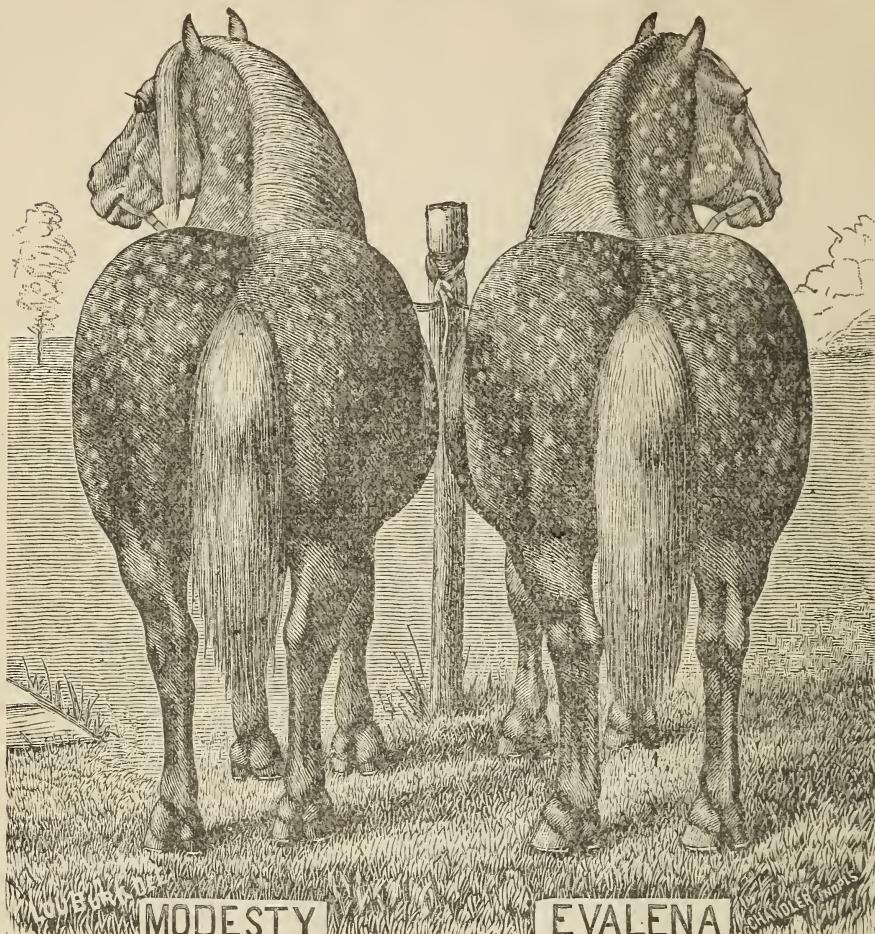
The committee appointed at a meeting of farmers held at Annapolis Junction, December 29, to consider the advisability of forming a tri-county agricultural society, as published in the MARYLAND FARMER, for January, assembled at the Malthy House, on the 19th ultimo. There were present Messrs. John Bowie, H. M. Murray, T. G. Beard, Dr. King, for Anne Arundel county; R. Hardesty, F. M. Hall, E. G. Bowling, Prince George's county; C. Haslup, P. C. Gorman, Howard county, and Dr. A. P. Sharp and Ezra Whitman for Baltimore City. The president of the previous meeting called the meeting to order, and named Col. W. W. W. Bowie to fill the vacancy in the Baltimore city delegation. On motion Col. F. M. Hall, of Prince George's was called to the chair, and Mr. E. Whitman appointed secretary. The chairman stated that the object of the meeting was to prepare a constitution and all necessary papers for the organization of an agricultural association. Col. Bowie, in a few remarks, set forth the duties of the committee and the great object to be arrived at. A sub committee of one from each county and the city of Baltimore was appointed to draft a constitution. The committee, through

its chairman, Col. W. W. W. Bowie, made its report, which was adopted after some trivial amendments. On motion of Mr. R. Hardisty, it was settled that a general mass-meeting of farmers should be called to assemble at Annapolis Junction, February 3, at 11 A. M. The chair appointed Messrs. E. Whitman, Gorman, Hardesty, and John Bowie a committee to arrange for the meeting, after which the committee adjourned to meet in Annapolis on Monday, the 26th of January, at 12 o'clock. A number of gentlemen from the several counties interested were present, and all appeared to be greatly in favor of the objects and aims of the proposed society, and expressed the opinion that the association would meet with the enthusiastic approval of the farmers in the three counties embraced in the organization.

PROF. NEWELL, of the Normal School, and of the State Board of Education, in his report to the Legislature thus speaks of the Maryland Agricultural College: "Under the cautious but energetic administration of the president, aided by the hearty co-operation of a corps of able and hard-working instructors, the college seems to have taken a new lease of life, and gives cheering evidence that it will yet fulfill the promises of its youth. The harmony in the board of trustees has been unbroken, and they have given the president the benefit of their unhesitating and undivided support."

THE LAST PEACH CROP.—The Wilmington (Del.) Every Evening publishes some interesting statistics in regard to the last peach crop on the peninsula, which, it says, was the third largest ever grown there, and nearly as remunerative as that of any previous year. The shipments of peaches were as follows, expressed in baskets: By water to Baltimore, 900,000; by water to Philadelphia 35,500; by water to New York, 319,000; by rail to various points, 2,307,722; home consumption, 451,000. Total of crop, 3,931,233 baskets. From averages from a large number of shippers at different points it is demonstrated that peaches cleared, after delivery at depots, about 40 cents per basket, which would appear to show—as the canned and dried fruit paid quite as well as that shipped—that the peninsula realized from its peaches over \$1,500,000. As it costs about 10 cents per basket to pick and haul, the laborers got about \$390,000, leaving to the growers more than \$1,000,000 for their crop, which was not a full one by any means,

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.



From the Stables of E. Dillon & Co.
Norman French Horses, Bloomington, Illinois.

French draft horses are generally known throughout the world as Norman horses. It is the name that was given to the renowned heavy horses in Normandy many centuries ago, and has been handed down from generation to generation until the present time. J. H. Walsh, a reliable English author says: "The Norman horse has been celebrated for ages as the type of horse, for the purpose of show and utility combined; with a fine upstanding forehead, he unites a frame of the most massive proportions, and this is moulded in a form as elegant as is consistent with his enormous power. * * * Their country woman, Rosa Bonheur, has made this variety of horses familiar to most of my readers, and I need not, therefore,

trouble myself to describe them minutely. * * * The true Norman horse is large, powerful, sufficiently active, and very hardy." The writer says: "We [meaning the English people] may hope still to be able to maintain our supremacy in horses intended for the race course or the hunting field; but as far as I can learn, the French cavalry are gradually obtaining a class of animals bred out of their lightest and stoutest Norman mares, crossed with thoroughbred horses of pure English blood, some imported direct, and others bred with care in France. The produce are of good size, very hardy, and possessed of excellent legs and feet; indeed, in every way calculated for troop horses; and, should our cavalry ever come in contact with

them, and any advantage is to be gained, it must be through superior horsemanship alone.

Mr. Edward Harris, of Moorstown, New Jersey, who traveled extensively in France, and imported a number of Norman horses to the United States, in answer to inquiries concerning French draft horses, says: "I refer you to an article upon the Norman horse written by an Englishman and published in the *British Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*, in which the writer says: 'The horses of Normandy are a capital race for hard work and scanty fare. I have never seen such horses at the collar, under the diligence, the post-chaise, the cumbrous and heavy voiture or cabriolet, for one or two horses, or on the farm. They are enduring and energetic beyond description; with their neck cut to the bone, they flinch not; they put forth all their efforts at the voice of the driver, or at the dread sound of the whip; they keep their condition when other horses would die of neglect and hard treatment. A better cross for some of our horses cannot be imagined than those of Normandy.'"

For the Maryland Farmer.

HORSES.

I wrote you some pieces on the horse—bringing their management to three years old—but overlooked one thing: It is important to all ages in winter, when grass cannot be had, to give them, when thirsty, a bucket of water, every week or ten days, with one or two handfuls of salt dissolved in it, and to refuse them any other until that is consumed; to the younger, give less and weaker. At first they will not like it, but will soon become fond of it. It is better than dry salt—it suffuses through the system, relieves it of fever, destroys worms, and generally invigorates the system.

Again, colts and horses ought to be accustomed to handling their tails, and if they begin to rest them, or the pendament becomes husky or dry, with a small mop, it should be greased inside and out, to destroy the little worms that cause it. You will say, no doubt, "well, enough of this for the present; you must be short."

We have had here remarkable weather; the late fall and early winter continued dry so long that farmers were uneasy about their wheat, especially the late sown, fearing it might not get up and acquire strength for the winter; then until now a remarkable continuation of cloudy weather, with but little rain, and a mere skim of snow—and all the time so mild that at no time was there ice as thick as a pasteboard, and on sunny days could and can sit with our windows open, listening to

the whistle of the Shenandoah Valley R. R., that connects us with Washington and Baltimore, with which we will soon have the wires. Wheat covers the ground and looks beautiful.

Let us gratefully enjoy this delightful weather, and not cloud our gratitude by rebelliously thinking of any loss that may be the consequence from the ladies, for want of practice, losing the art of making delicious ice cream, and the loss to the farmer of a demand for his rye straw from tulips going begging for want of ice.

J. W. WARE,
Jan. 17th 1880. Berryville, Va.

Smithfield (England) Club.

CATTLE SHOW FOR 1879.

Of this show, Bell's Weekly Messenger says: "The Smithfield Club Show for 1879 has passed off in a way that may be termed fairly satisfactory, considering the depressed state of agriculture and the slackness of trade."

The London Agricultural Gazette says:

Of the Show, as a whole, we may say that the large classes of Shorthorns are not above the usual standard of merit—that the Herefords are a very remarkable display of the breed—that the Sussex classes are as good, and the Scotch classes better than usual. The Polled cattle, exhibited by Mr. W. G. Gordon Cumming, are very remarkable; and probably the most remarkable specimens of early and admirable maturity in the hall are the Southdown lambs shown by Messrs. Heasman, of Angmering. The different breeds of sheep are well represented, the Oxford-Downs are unusually good, the Shropshires alone, strange to say, falling short of their usual number.

Mr. R. Stratton's Short-Horn heifer, Wild Flower, took the cup as the best of her breed, and was also awarded the champion plate of 100 guineas as "best beast in the Show."

Mrs. Sarah Edwards' Hereford heifer, Leonora, winner of the cup as best of her breed, was thought by many to have deserved the champion prize better than Wild Flower. In reference to Leonora and Wild Flower, the North British Agriculturist says:

The Hereford is certainly a much better specimen of her kind than the Shorthorn is of hers. The former stands near the ground, and has immense thickness of flesh over the fore ribs, while the Shorthorn, as already indicated, has nothing unusually good except her ribs. The meat of the latter may be worth a little more per pound, because she handles more firmly, but the Hereford is undoubtedly a great beauty, and would have been a popular champion female.

Of the champion sheep, the same journal says:

Among the Southdowns we find, as usual, symmetry and quality prevailing. Mr. Humphrey's

first prize twenty-months-old wethers of his own breeding, are plump, uniform, and ripe as pears. They triumphed in the class over some very nice lots belonging to the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Richmond, Lord Walsingham, and others; and for the "breed cup" they were successful against a nicely matched pen of ewes, the property of the Earl of Suffolk, as well as a rare pen of lambs exhibited by the breeder, Mr. Alfred Heasman. But they had more in store, carrying, as they eventually did, the £50 champion plate over Mr. Close's Lincolns and the cup winners of all the other breeds. Quality of mutton and lightness of offal must have pulled them through in competition with animals a third heavier. Lord Walsingham followed the winners closely, both in the ewe and wether classes, with very stylish, tidy little sheep.

In a very full report of the Show, Bell's Weekly Messenger thus speaks of the Herefords:

The Hereford heifers are a very choice lot; eight entries, five putting in an appearance. Mr. Taylor's Lancashire Lass, first at Birmingham, is deservedly first again here. Mr. Lewis Loyd's very neat heifer taking the second, and a Spartan heifer, exhibited by her breeder, Mr. Philip Turner, the third prize; while Her Majesty's Birmingham second winner has only high commendation, and Mr. Agate's heifer, a half-sister, if we mistake not, to the second winner, is commended.

Leonora, one of the most evenly made-up cows we ever saw, carrying an immense weight of flesh upon a moderate-sized, low-built frame, was easily first again in the cow class, and as easily winner of the cup for the best Hereford. Many visitors booked her for the Championship, but, as we have already observed, the Hereford judges gave a decided preference always to firm flesh, as also did the three special judges appointed to award the tool and two 50/- cups. Now Leonora, although so unquestionably the best of her class and breed that there was no denying her claim, is just so far short of perfection in handling as to excuse, we maintain, the decision against her for the championship. Try the spring of the flesh on, say, crops or loin, and in either case you find that while it is not flabby, there is a sort of quagmire shaking of the flesh several inches round where you touch; you can not only feel, but see, the quivering along the surface. A little more hardening, if that be possible without any shrinking in to mar her present faultless, or almost faultless shape, might make her a very pattern of handling, as she is now a model of form.

Selecting Dairy Cows.

Look first to the great characteristics of a dairy cow—a large stomach, indicated by broad hips, broad and deep loins and sides, a broad or double chine—these indicate a large digestive apparatus, which is the first essential requisite to the manufacture of milk. Secondly, a good constitution, depending largely upon the lungs and heart, which should be well developed, and this is easily determined by examination; but the vigor and tone of the constitution is indicated by the lustre of the

hair and brightness of the eye and horns, and the whole make-up. Thirdly, having determined her capacity for digesting surplus food for making milk, look carefully to the receptacle for the milk—the udder—and the veins leading to it. The cow may assimilate a large amount of food which goes mostly to lay on flesh and fat; but if she has a long, broad, and deep udder, with large milk veins, it is safe to conclude that her large capacity for digestion and assimilation are active in filling this receptacle. In fact the udder is the first point to look at in a cursory examination of a cow, for Nature is not apt to create in vain. If it reaches to the back line of the thighs, well up behind, reaches well forward, is broad and moderately deep, with teats well apart, and skin soft and elastic, it may be inferred that Nature has provided means for filling it.

If the udder be a small round cylinder, hanging down in the front of the thighs, like a six-quart pail, the cow cannot be a profitable milker, whatever digestive apparatus she may have.

A yellow skin and a yellow ear (inside) is almost universally regarded as present in a cow that gives rich yellow milk; but after you find the indications mentioned above, you may admire as many other points as you please;—such as a first-class escutcheon, a long, slim tail, a beautifully turned dishing face, a drooping, waxy horn, a small, straight, slim leg, or any other points; but do not look for these till you have found the essentials.

National Live Stock Journal.

The Hereford Herd Book.

The publishers have adopted for the title of the above work, "The American Hereford Record," and have made application to the Secretary of State for permission to form a stock company for the publishing of this and such other works as shall seem best to advance the interest which they represent:

The Record will be in the hands of the printer in a short time, and placed before the public at an early day. It will contain 2,300 pedigrees and some 50 or more pages of reading matter, giving a sketch of the progress of the Hereford breed of cattle and their relation to other breeds.

The English Hereford Herd Book society has issued the 10th volume which is just out. The American work will be complete in itself, every pedigree will trace as far back as the record goes.

Carroll county claims to be the champion on hogs and turkeys. Chas. Stoner, at Fountain Valley, raised a hog that weighed 665 pounds, and George P. Furhman, of Manchester, killed a turkey this week which dressed 42 pounds.

The Poultry House.

The *Fanciers' Journal* is an elegantly printed monthly at \$1.50, at Springfield, Mass., edited by an accomplished lady, Mrs. E. S. Starr. It is full of useful and practical information, and we commend it to all poultry keepers whether fanciers or not. We give the following extracts from its January number:

Muscovy Ducks.

This breed is not a favorite with fanciers or breeders, being unprofitable as a layer, and of so quarrelsome a disposition that it cannot be kept in peace with other varieties. It comes to us from South America; takes its name from the strong, musky odor the flesh gives out when uncooked. It is active on the wing, perches on trees and on the roosts with fowls. From the fact that interbreeding cannot be continued between it and other varieties, is strong evidence of its being a distinct species. Musk ducklings are greatly esteemed for the table. They grow quickly, and at ten or twelve weeks may be killed for eating. Their flesh then, is exceedingly rich and juicy. The eggs, set under hens, require five weeks for hatching, set under ducks, less time. Old musks are not so good eating as any other breed of domestic ducks. They are two colors—the black and white : variegated appear but as the result of cross-breeding. The feathers are long ; the drake, in color, a beautiful iridescent green. At the base of the bill is a fleshy lump, and the eye is encircled with a cere—the face being of the same substance and bare. The drakes average ten pounds weight while the females rarely exceed seven. The drake lacks the curled tail feathers common to the male duck, but is easily distinguished from the duck by the greater adornments of the head and greater size. In disposition, he is the enemy of the entire poultry yard, and his great size and strength make him a formidable antagonist.

Thomas H. Richardson, Green Island, N. Y., gives notice of his intention to engage certain of his birds in a flight of 500 miles, during the season of 1880.

W. B. Tegetmeir says of judging homers: "Those who know nothing about them, award prizes for appearance only. Those who know the breed, regard the strength of muscle, the breadth of flight-feathers, and general condition, also. Birds kept in confinement are too soft in plumage to win."

H. F. Whitman, Baltimore, Md., is making some valuable additions to his stock of homers. His latest purchase is through the agency of John Van

Opstal, of twenty-one pairs from one of the best Brussel's lofts. These birds number many long-distance prize winners, still bear the club marks, and are accompanied by their diplomas. They are expected about the first of February. We shall probably hear of their stock in next season's bird races.

Maryland Agricultural College.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College, on the 21st ultimo, Messrs. Earle, Whitman, Dodge, Lee Merryman, McHenry, and Newell being present, Dr. Wm. P. Headen was unanimously elected to fill the chair of Chemistry, vacated by the resignation of Prof. W. D. Morgan.

Dr. Headen graduated with high standing, at Dickinson College, in 1872. Immediately after graduation he accompanied Prof. Hines to Europe, and entered the laboratory of Eresenius, at Weisbaden, and subsequently entered the University of Giessen, where, after completion of the course, upon examination, he took the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with the highest distinction known in the University. He returned to America to take the place of Assistant in the laboratory of the University of Pennsylvania, of which Dr. Geuth had charge, and filled the position for several years with the highest satisfaction to all parties. The College is fortunate in securing the services of so distinguished a scientist and experienced a chemist.

An Agricultural College Creamery.

The *Rural World* says it was announced some months ago that the Iowa Agl. College would start a creamery. The College Quarterly informs us that the building for the college creamery was completed a month ago. It consists of two rooms in the lower story, one containing a sunken reservoir of water for cooling the milk, and the other a small engine for churning, and a boiler which supplies both steam for the engine and hot water for cleansing. The water is furnished from a distant spring through an underground pipe, being forced by a windmill, which also supplies the water for the college building. The creamery now furnishes the most delicious butter for the college tables, though not quite so much yet as the large numbers in the dining hall daily consume. They have for the season some sixty cows, which, besides the butter, supply the college table with milk. Students do the milking, and likewise the butter making.—*Ex*

LADIES DEPARTMENT.**Chat with the Ladies for February.**

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

WINTER.

From his den in the darkened North he comes
 With a thousand shadowy forms,
 To fetter the sea with a blast of his breath,
 To take a king's share in the harvest of death,
 And revel in withering storms !

Oh, a grim old tyrant and gray is he,
 With the ashes of year upon year,
 His garb is a hurricane wrapping him round,
 And the sun is the jewel with which it is bound,
 Till clouds to unrobe him appear.

He laughs at the long-armed ghosts of the wood,
 That watch o'er the graves of the flowers ;
 And he mockingly decks them with crystals of light,
 And wraps their stiff limbs in a garment of white,
 Brought out of the sands of his hours.

He breathes on the river and bids it lie,
 Unnerved in a living death ;
 He veileth the sun in a storm-bearing cloud,
 He covers the earth with an ice-threaded shroud,
 And fastens it on with a breath,

The Old Year dies in his deadly grip.
 And aside from the present is cast ;
 But a New Year springs from its icy grave,
 And in its youth the foe to brave,
 Shall live when the Winter is past.

Instead of following the time honored custom of "dancing the old year out and the new year in," I happened to have the privilege of enjoying a juvenile entertainment given at that well-kept "Belmear House," once the "Relay House," at the Viaduct Junction, of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road with its Washington branch. This entertainment was the Exhibition of the young scholars of Mrs. Maurice's Academy on the Catonsville Avenue, some three or four hundred yards from the Viaduct Hotel. The performances of the scholars in charades, tableaux, recitations, &c., rapidly passing in succession lasted two hours, and the interest was well kept up the whole time, and greatly applauded by a large and highly respectable audience, which showed just discrimination as to the presentation of the several scenes and the different recitations.

The whole entertainment reflected great credit upon those scholars who took part in the several performances, and also upon the lady principal of

the school, whose peculiar tact and energy enabled her scholars to perform their several parts so admirably with (as we happen to know,) only a few days preparation.

Where all did so well, it would be invidious to designate scenes or characters that were particularly superior, yet, I cannot help from saying that I am sure none that were actors or spectators, on the occasion, will blame me for singling out as particularly well played. "The Quaker courtship," performed by Master C. and his sister, only 8 and 10 years old. They entered into the spirit of the play, and at once seemed to possess the audience which applauded rightly and to the echo so long, that one scene had to be repeated.

A more delightful evening I have seldom ever enjoyed. I learn that when the spring session opens, Mrs. M. intends to have a class in Botany, for such of her pupils as are sufficiently advanced and desire to study this useful science, and to add to it practical lessons in horticulture, after the French and other European countries, where the children in all the schools are taught gardening and the elementary principles of agriculture, horticulture and other branches intimately connected with such house-hold duties as are requisite to fit men and women for the discharge of duties appertaining to domestic comfort, and calculated to make homes happy, or at least, to enable young folks, upon entering upon active life, to be able intelligently to discharge such duties as the reverses of fortunes these days, and the frequent vicissitudes of life often call upon persons—female and male—to perform, which had never before entered into their roseate calculations and happy hopes.

As I said in the chat for January, I shall perhaps continue to talk this year at times, upon practical matters connected with the education of the young; I shall, with your permission, dilate further upon the theme just alluded to, and upon such household education which every boy, and girl especially, ought to receive at the hands of their mothers or competent teachers, to render them fit for the responsible duties of rulers of a house-hold.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

SOME LITTLE THINGS OF VALUE.—If your coal fire is low, throw on a tablespoonful of salt, and it will help it very much. A little ginger put into sausage meat improves the flavor. In icing cakes, dip the knife in cold water. In boiling for meat soup, use cold water to extract the juices. If the meat is wanted for itself alone, plunge it in boiling water at once. You can get a bottle or barrel of oil off any carpet or woolen stuff by applying buckwheat plentifully. Never put water

to such a grease spot, or liquid of any kind. Broil steak without salting. Salt draws the juices in cooking; it is desirable to keep these, if possible. Cook over a hot fire, turning frequently, searing both sides. Place on a platter; salt and pepper, to taste. Beef having a tendency to be tough, can be made very palatable by stewing gently for two hours with salt and pepper, taking out about a pint of the liquor when half done, and letting the rest boil into the meat. Brown the meat in the pot. After taking up, make a gravy of the pint of liquor saved. A small piece of charcoal in the pot with boiling cabbage removes the smell. Clean oilcloths with milk and water; a brush and soap will ruin them. Tumblers that have milk in them should never be put in hot water. A spoonful of stewed tomatoes in the gravy of either roasted or fried meats is an improvement. The skin of a boiled egg is the most efficacious remedy that can be applied to a boil. Peel it carefully, wet and apply to the part affected. It will draw out the matter and relieve the soreness in a few hours.—*Springfield Union.*

HOW TO DEAL WITH RATS.—We clean our premises of these detestable vermin by making whitewash yellow with copperas, and covering the stones and rafters in the cellar with it. In every crevice where a rat may tread we put the crystals of the copperas, and scatter the same in the corners of the floor. The result was a perfect stampede of rats and mice. Since that time not a footfall of either rats or mice has been heard about the house. Every spring a coat of the yellow wash is given the cellar, as a purifier, as a rat exterminator, and no typhoid, dysentery, or fever attacks the family. Many persons deliberately attract all the rats in the neighborhood by leaving fruits and vegetables uncovered in the cellar, and sometimes even the soap is left open for their regalement. Cover up everything eatable in the cellar and pantry, and you will soon have them out. These precautions, joined to the service of a good cat, will prove as good a rat exterminator as the chemist can provide. We never allow rats to be poisoned in our dwelling, they are so liable to die between the walls and produce much annoyance.—*Cor. Scientific Farmer.*

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARMERS' CONVENTION:—After we had two communications in regard to this important meeting, in type, we received an official account of the proceedings, which having been given at our request by the officers, we regret we have to let it lay over for next month for want of room, but it is good enough to keep, and will at any time be read with interest. The President and assistant Secretary will please accept our thanks for their courtesy.

Catalogues Received.

Price-list of choice acclimated field and garden seeds, W. B. Jones, Herndon, Ga.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1880, Rochester, N. Y. Of this catalogue it is enough to say it equals its predecessors which are pronounced by everybody as super-excellent. This one, besides hundreds of illustrations, has a splendid colored plate of roses. It has a full description of the mode of culture of each plant, and is a sure guide to all who cultivate flowers or vegetables.

Peter Henderson & Co.'s catalogue of "Everything for the Garden." This is a superb catalogue full of information and beautifully illustrated with cuts and a splendid colored engraving of single and double geraniums.

Publications Received.

Report of the special committee appointed by the Maryland Institute, to visit other cities, Carroll Spence, L. L. D., chairman. This interesting report we may more fully notice hereafter, and publish some of their suggestions, which have resulted from investigations in the Institutes of other cities.

The American Entomologist, new series, Vol. I., No. 1, edited by Prof. Chas. V. Riley and A. S. Fuller, assistant editor, and published by Max Jaegerhuber, 223 Pearl Street, New York; monthly, at \$2.00 per year. This journal seems to fully fill a void in agricultural literature and science which should have been supplied long since.

Results of the Soil Tests of Fertilizers, for 1879, conducted under the directions of the Commissioner of Georgia, with comments; Atlanta, Ga.

We are indebted to Gen. Le Duc, the energetic Commissioner of U. S. Agricultural Department, for a copy of his report for 1878. It is one of the best and most useful volumes ever issued from that Department since its establishment.

Our thanks are due our able representative in Congress, Hon. Wm. Kimmell, for valuable documents.

THANKS:—For the splendidly illustrated catalogue of Garden and Flower seed from D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., accompanied with a collection of various vegetable and flower seeds in envelopes with colored engravings of the flower or vegetable of enclosed seed, on one side of envelope, and on the other a concise mode of culture for the same. We wish this enterprising company all the success their elegant taste and expensive enterprise deserves.

**CONSTITUTION.
of the American Agricultural Association.**

ARTICLE I.

NAME, OBJECTS, AND LIMITATIONS.

SEC. 1. The name of this organization shall be "**THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**".

SEC. 2. The objects of this Association shall be to protect, promote and develop the agriculture of the whole country in all its branches, and the interests of those engaged therein and closely connected therewith.

SEC. 3. The means emp'oyed shall be the association, organization, and co-operation of its members periodical and migratory meetings for deliberation, discussion and business, correspondence and publications, and such others as may be proper and expedient to the end desired, including exhibitions.

SEC. 4. There shall be a total exclusion from the meetings of the Association, its proceedings and publications of all questions of a partizan character.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1 Any person may become a member of this Association by signing a declaration of personal interest in its objects, desire to further the same, and willingness to abide by its Constitution and By-Laws, to be upon a form provided for the purpose, and by paying to the proper officer the sum of one dollar.

SEC. 2. Membership shall continue indefinitely upon the payment of such dues and the performance of such obligations as may be duly imposed. Membership may be terminated by resignation, or by a two thirds vote of all the Directors, for cause, and shall cease upon failure to comply with this Article during two consecutive calendar years, due notice of such failure having been served upon the delinquent member.

SEC. 3. The payments to the Association of the sum of fifty dollars at one time by any person, together with the signing of the declaration prescribed by Section 1, shall constitute such person a Life-Member. Life-Members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of members, and shall be free from all assessments and payments, but they shall perform such other duties and obligations as may be imposed upon members in general for the good of the Association.

SEC. 4. The payment to the Association of the sum of one thousand dollars at one time by

any person, together with the signing of the declaration prescribed, shall constitute such person an Advisory Director. Advisory Directors shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities of Life Members, shall be subject to like obligations, and shall be entitled to be present at all meetings of the Directors, in which they shall have a voice, but no vote, except that in meetings when said vote may create a quorum it may be counted.

ARTICLE III.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

SEC. There shall be a general meeting of the Association held annually in each calendar year, at such time and place as the Directors shall designate, notice being given to every member.

SEC. 2. At every annual general meeting, the proper officers shall make a full report of the finances of the Association of the business transacted by its officers during the year, and of the proceedings of the Directors and the meeting by resolutions may call for any information in addition to said reports and pertinent thereto, which shall be furnished forthwith by the proper official.

SEC. 3. At every annual general meeting immediately following the reports, a committee of three shall be chosen from the members present, not officers, to examine the accounts and records of the Association, and report upon the condition of the same to the meeting before adjournment.

SEC. 4. There shall be such other general meeting of the Association as may be provided for at the annual meeting, or ordered by the Directors by giving due notice to the members.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. At the annual general meeting there shall be chosen by ballot from the members, a President and a senior Vice President, the term of whose service shall be the calandar year next following such choice. These officers shall be ineligible to re election for two years after the expiration of their respective terms of service. There shall be chosen to serve the same term, one Vice-President from each State, those from the States represented at the meeting to be chosen by the members present from the respective States, and for those States not so represented by the meeting at large.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all general meetings of the Association and all meetings of the Board of Directors, and to give an address at the opening session of the annual general meeting. He shall per-

form such other duties as the Directors may prescribe. The senior Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in case of his absence, and in case of a vacancy in the office, the senior Vice-President shall become President for the unexpired term.

SEC. 3. In case of the absence of President and senior Vice-President, the Directors shall appoint a presiding officer *pro tem.*

SEC. 4. There shall be a Board of twenty-one Directors, no two to be residents of the same State. At such annual general meeting there shall be chosen by ballot seven Directors, whose terms of service shall be the three calendar years next following such choice. These officers shall be ineligible to re election for one year after the expiration of their respective terms. The same meeting shall in like manner make choice of Directors to fill any vacancies existing for the unexpired portions of the terms thereof. The first annual general meeting shall elect the full Board one-third for three years, one-third for two years and one-third for one year.

SEC. 5. The Board of Directors shall have the management of all the affairs of the Association not specially provided for at the general meetings, consistent with this Constitution and the By-Laws existing, and the laws of the land, and of the income and funds of the Association, and shall do whatever may appear necessary or desirable for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of the American Agricultural Association. At the first meeting in each year the Directors shall determine the number necessary to constitute a quorum of their body, provided it be not less than seven members, exclusive of the members *ex officio.*

SEC. 6. The President, senior Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be *ex officio* members of the Board of Directors.

SEC. 7. The Directors shall, by ballot, elect, and may by a three-fourths vote of the members present at any regular meeting, remove a Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, and shall prescribe their duties.

ARTICLE V.

FINANCES.

SEC. 1. The annual dues of members may be fixed at the annual general meeting for the calendar year ensuing by a two-thirds vote, and if not so fixed for any year, shall remain as the year next preceding.

SEC. 2. All receipts from Life-Members and Advisory Directors, and all bequests and gifts

not by their terms otherwise applied, shall go to form the permanent fund of the Association, and shall, as may be determined by the Directors, be invested in the bonds and interest bearing securities of the Government of the United States. The income of the permanent fund may be applied to the uses of the Association by a majority vote of the Directors, but it shall require a four-fifths vote of all the Directors, to expend any part of the principal.

SEC. 3. The Association shall not incur any pecuniary liability in excess of the annual funds in hand until an act of incorporation shall have been obtained and accepted, which shall protect the members from any personal liability.

ARTICLE VI.

AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS.

SEC. 1. This Constitution may be altered and amended upon recommendation of the Directors, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any general meeting.

SEC. 2. By-Laws to govern the management of the affairs of the Association, not inconsistent with this Constitution, may be established by the Directors, and they may provide for altering and amending the same. Such By-Laws shall be in force until repealed by a general meeting of the Association or by the Directors, but no change shall take effect until the meeting following the one at which it is made.

WANTED!

To complete a Volume of the Maryland Farmer for 1876, the March and September numbers of that year. Any person who has these numbers and can spare them, will please drop us a postal card and they will receive our thanks.—Eds. Md. Far.

Early Strawberries for New York.

New York World Special.

CHARLESTOWN, January 15.—One of the most remarkable incidents in this exceptional winter here is the ripening of strawberries in the vicinity of this city. It is expected that shipments of this luscious fruit will go forward this week to New York. Another instance of the extraordinary season here is the blossoming of the jessamines in the city gardens and on the country roads.

LABORATORY,
BRUNO TERNE, Ph. Dr.,
CHEMIST.

DELAWARE RIVER CHEMICAL WORKS.

Philadelphia, January 9, 1880.

MESSRS. BAUGH & SONS:

I have the pleasure of calling your attention to the following peculiar advantages of the sulphate of ammonia manufactured by you from animal bones, and which ought to be of striking interest to all those in the fertilizer trade who deal in this article.

Nearly all the sulphate of ammonia produced from gas liquors, or the wash water from gas works, contains ammonium sulpho-cyanides—a chemical compound, which is a strong poison to the roots of the plants.

Prof. F. Nobbe, of Tharandt, Saxony; Dr. P. Wagner, of Darmstadt, and other German and English chemists, connected with the Agricultural Experimental Stations, have cautioned publicly the farming community against the use of sulphate of ammonia which contains ammonium sulpho-cyanide, even though it may be in very small quantity. I beg to append hereto a detailed statement of the facts above referred to, simply adding that the sulphate of ammonia made by you is absolutely free from the poison I have indicated, and should, therefore, be highly recommended for fertilizing purposes.

Yours Respectfully,

BRUNO TERNE.

In using sulphate of ammonia as a fertilizer, caution is necessary in order that farmers may select a product which is free from all cyanide compounds, which are very detrimental to the growth of all plants.

Some years ago the markets of the European Continent were flooded with a product from the English gas water, which proved to be of such poisonous character to plant growth that serious results were seen on every hand.

When sulphate of ammonia is produced out of gas waters, the source of a polluted product is furnished by the raw material—many of the articles in our markets, made in this way, are contaminated with as much as from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. of sulpho-cyanide of ammonium.

When sulphate of ammonia is produced from animal matters, such as bones, hoofs, horns, etc., the source of this poison does not exist at all, and therefore such an article can be guaranteed absolutely free from the poison in question.

It is not a difficult matter to detect this dangerous compound in commercial sulphate of ammonia.—Dissolve the salt in pure water and add a few drops of muriatic acid (chemically pure), then pour in a small quantity of a solution of chloride of iron; the color will instantly turn from the yellow of the chloride of iron to a deep blood red color, if the sulphate of ammonia is polluted by sulpho-cyanide of ammonium.

The following is a translation of some of the German authorities on this subject:—

In "The Manual of the Manufacture of Fertilizers," by Dr. Paul Wagner, Director of the Agricultural Experimental Station, Darmstadt, Germany—the author says, page 79—

"The manufacturers and users of fertilizers should be extremely careful in regard to the pollution of sulphate of ammonia with sulpho-cyanide of ammonium, as this compound—first referred to by Dr. F. Nobbe, Professor at the Agricultural College at Tharandt, Saxony, and later confirmed by C. Schumann and the author—has an extremely poisonous effect on plant growth."

Dr. O. Kohlransch, Vienna, published in the "Organ des Vereins fur Rubenzucker-Industrie," January, 1874, the following:

A number of experiments with sulphate of ammonia, polluted with sulpho-cyanide of ammonium, gave the following results upon the growth of plants:—

"1st. Barley is more perceptably affected by sulpho-cyanide of ammonium than wheat.

"2d. Sulpho-cyanide of ammonium in the small quantity of 0.025 grammes of the compound—160 grammes of the salt contained 2.50 per cent. of sulpho-cyanide of ammonium—mixed with one kilogram weight of garden soil, has such a poisonous effect upon plants that they are all killed in a short time. The same destructive effect was noticed when *one-half the above quantity* of the poisonous compound was mixed with one litre of water, prepared as a nutritious solution. It is most certain that 0.012 of a gramme, in one thousand grammes of garden soil, would produce the same fatal effect."

To reach this result experimentally, Dr. Kohlrausch presented the following exhibit:—He mixed with 1,000 grammes of garden soil, 1, 2, 3, and 4 grammes, respectively, of pure sulphate of ammonia, and the same quantities of the polluted article; he also made the same experiments in a nutritious solution with half the quantity of pure and impure salts. After 24 days the results were as given in this tabula.

IN GARDEN SOIL

Treated with pure sulphate of ammonia, Treated with polluted sulphate of ammonia.

Height of the plants in centimeters.			Height of the plants in centimeters.		
Barley.	Wheat.	Remarks.	Barley.	Wheat.	Remarks.
1 15.0	13.0		1 5.0	8.0	
2 14.5	14.0		2 2.0	6.0	nearly dried up.
3 15.5	13.5	Every plant rich and green	3 dead	6.5	Wheat everywhere yellow; in 4, brown with yellow top.
4 12.5	14.6		4 dead	7.0	

IN NUTRITIOUS SOLUTION.

Containing pure sulphate of ammonia Containing polluted sulphate of ammonia

Height of the plants in centimeters.			Height of the plants in centimeters.		
Barley.	Wheat.	Remarks.	Barley.	Wheat.	Remarks.
1 12.5	11.0		1 7.0	10.0	Barley, yellow with
2 16.0	10.0		2 9.0	8.5	dry top. Wheat in
3 13.0	12.0	Every plant healthy.	3 6.5	10.5	1 and 2 fresh; in 3
4 12.0	9.5		4 8.0	10.0	and 4 greenish yellow.

After 36 days all the plants of column one—in which pure Sulphate was used—were entirely healthy and vigorous. The largest barley in the garden soil stood 24 centimeters high; in the solution, 23.5 centimeters high.

The plants in second column—that treated with polluted Sulphate of Ammonia—were with the exception of No. 1 barley and Nos. 1 and 2 of wheat, all dead.

After 42 days all the plants of the second column were gone with the exception of No. 10 wheat, in both departments, though these were very sickly. The plants in the first column in both departments were sound and healthy.

TAKE NOTICE !!

An Italian Queen Bee is generously offered by Mr. Pike, of Smithsburg, Washington County, Md. as a Special Premium for the one who will send in by the first of July next, the largest list of subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER.

Hon. A. P. Butler has been elected commissioner of agriculture of South Carolina by the Legislature of that State. This department has just been established, and Mr. Butler is said to be a practical agriculturist of large experience.

The Directors of the Harford county Agricultural Society have organized by electing Garrett Amos president, C. C. Kinsey vice president, Henry W. Archer, Jr., treasurer, and Jos. M. Streett secretary.

HINTS TO BUTTER-MAKERS is the title of a valuable little pamphlet, sent free to any address for one stamp. Address, Butter Improvement Co., Buffalo, N. Y. It tells how to increase amount of butter from given amount of cream 6 per cent., improve quality of butter 20 per cent., make "gilt-edge" or golden colored butter the year round. Every farmer and dairyman should send stamp for it.

SO MANY societies for the promotion of things are established, that Johnnie wants to know why somebody doesn't get up a society for the promotion of boys in schools without making them study so.

PERSONS wanting specimen copies of the MARYLAND FARMER will receive them free of postage by sending 10 cents.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--FEB. 1.

This Market Report is carefully made up every month, and farmers may rely upon its correctness.

Apples, New York, per bbl.....1 50 a 200
do. country do.....

Bark--The market steady and unchanged, No. 1 \$25; No. 2 at \$12a20 per ton.

Beans--Medium to choice.....1 65a1 75

Beeswax--Prices steady'at.....0 24

Broom Corn--Medium to choice.....0 06a0 08

Butter--For table use.....0 33a0 35

" Cooking and bakery.....0 10a0 14

" Near by receipts.....0 9a6 10

Cheese--N. Y. State.....0 9a0 10

" Western.....8a 8½

Cotton--Demand is good.....12%a12

Eggs--Different localities.....22a24

Fertilizers--Jobbing rates are here quoted. Contracts for large orders can be made at reduced figures. 2,000 lbs. to the ton.

Peruvian Guano.....\$50 00a65 00

Turner's Excelsior.....\$50 00

do Ammonia Sup. Phos.....40 00

Soluble Pacific Guano.....45 00

Rasin's & Co.'s Sol. S. Is. Guano.....50 00

Excellenza Soluble Phosphate.....50 00

do Cotton Fertilizer.....50 00

J. M. Rhodes & Co.'s Ammoniated Phosphate.....45 00

Holloway's Excelsior.....46 00

Holloway's Phosphate.....40 00

Whitman's Phosphate.....45 00

Missouri Bone Meal.....40 00

Plaster.....per bbl. 1 75

Orchilla Guan A. per ton.....30 00

South Sea Guano.....50 00

Slingluff & Co. Dissolved Raw Bone.....45 00

Slingluff & 's Dissolved Bone Ash.....40 00a42 00

Whitman's Potato Phosphate.....45 00

" Dissolved Missouri Bone.....45 00

do Bone Ash.....40 00

Feathers--Live Geese.....0 00a15

Grain--Corn.....0 43a0 47

Oats.....0 29a0 33

Rye.....0 55a0 53

Wheat.....1 44a1 48

Potatoes--

Early Rose, per bushel.....a

Peerless, per ous.....5'a0 60

Peach Blow, per bbl.....40a0 60

Sweet Potatoes per bbl.....2 50a3 00

Live Stock--Beef Cattle.....0 a 2½

Hogs, fat.....4 00a 5 00

Sheep.....2 50a3 50

Seeds--

Clover Alsike.....1 66c

do Lucerne best.....50c

do Red, Choice.....10c

do White.....50c

Flaxseed.....1 bush. a1 00

Grass Red Top.....1 bush. 1.25a1.50

do Orchard.....2.25a

do Italian Rye.....3.50

do Hungarian.....

do German Millet, per bus.....

do Ordinary " "

do Timothy 45 lb.....2.75

do Kentucky Blue.....1.50a2. 0

Tobacco--**LEAF**--

Maryland--Frosted.....\$1 50a 2 00

do sound common.....2 50a3 00

do good do.....3 50a5 00

do middling.....6 00a 7 00

do good to fine red.....8 00a10 00

do fancy.....10 00a15 00

Virginia--common and good lugs.....8 50a10 00

do common to medium leaf.....10 00a13 00

do fair to good.....13 00a16 00

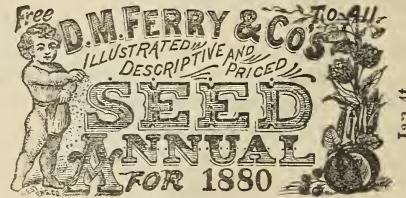
Wool--For Tuba-waahed, 33a35 cents, unwashed

17a22 cents per lb.



My Annual Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seeds for 1880, rich in engravings from photographs of the originals, will be sent FREE to all who apply. My old customers need not write for it. I offer one of the largest collections of vegetable seed ever sent out by any seed house in America, a large portion of which were grown on my six seed farms. Full directions for cultivation on each package. All seed warranted to be both fresh and true to name; so far, that should it prove otherwise, I will refill the order gratis. The original introducer of the Hubbard Squash, Phinney's Melon, Marblehead Cabbages, Mexican Corn, and scores of other vegetables, I invite the patronage of all who are anxious to have their seed directly from the grower, fresh, true, and of the very best strain. New Vegetables a specialty. Dec 5m

JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass.



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A Grand Premium of Fifty Dollars Extra,

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Let the work begin at once; a list of five or ten names may win the highest premium. The names may be sent in as fast as they are secured, and will be duly credited to the contestant's list.

It is the desire of the publishers that the **Dixie Farmer** be a weekly and welcome visitor to the home and fireside of every intelligent farmer at the South, and to this end they invite the co-operation, and for this the inducements in money premiums named to those who will secure them by making up clubs. Correspondence solicited. Address:

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	1	2	3
Water,	0.20	20.73	20.54
Carbonate of Lime,	1.43	0.72	1.87
Sulphate of Lime,	98.37	78.50	77.49
	100.00	100.00	100.00

It is shown by this that the Hard is about 20 per cent. richer in the essential element which makes the plaster of value for agricultural purposes, namely, Sulphate of Lime.

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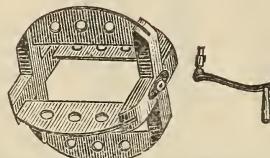
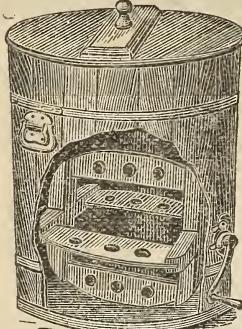
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parts, to the air and sun, to be always
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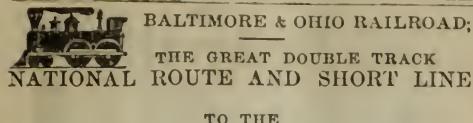
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NORTHWEST, WEST AND SOUTH

To take effect

SUNDAY, Nov. 24, 1878, at 4.20 A.M.

A. M. Leave Camden Station,

4.20 Washington and way stations.

5.20 †WASHINGTON EX. VA. MIDLAND,
LYNCHBURG, DANVILLE. South &
Southwest. RICHMOND, via Quantico.

6.30 Ellicott City and way stations.

6.45 Washington and way stations.

7.10 *ST. LOUIS, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO,
COLUMBUS PITTSBURG AND WASHINGTON
EXPRESS (Annapolis and Valley
Branch except Sunday).

8.00 †Piedmont, Strasburg, Winchester, Hagerstown,
Frederick and way, via. Main
Stem. (On Sunday to Ellicott City
only)

9.00 †Washington, and Way stations. (On
Sunday connects for Annapolis.)

10.30 WASHINGTON EXPRESS.

P. M.

12.15 Washington, Annapolis and way
stations.

1.30 On Sunday only for Washington and
Richmond, via Quantico.
way.

1.30 Ellicott City and way stations.

3.05 Washington and way stations.

4.00 WASHINGTON EX. RICHMOND, via Quan-
tico

4.20 Winchester, Hagerstown, Frederick and
way.

5.00 †Washington, Annapolis and way

5.20 †Frederick and way Stations.

6.15 †CHICAGO, COLUMBUS AND WASH. EX.

6.25 †Martinsburg and way stations.

6.30 †Washington and way stations.

8.30 *ST. LOUIS, CINCINNATI, PITTSBURG
AND WASHINGTON EXPRESS. (No con-
nection for Pittsburg on Sunday.)

9.00 On Sunday only, for Mt Airy & Way

11.15 Mt. Airy and way stations.

For Metropolitan Branch—†7.10 A. M., 1.30

(3.05 P. M. and †6.15 P.M. (†8.15 P. M. Rock-
ville only.)

All trains stop at Relay.

Leave Washington for Baltimore.

5.05, 6.50, †7.40, 8.30, †9.00 †10.00 A.M. †12.10;
†1.30 1.35, †4.30, †4.40, †5.30, †6.50, †8.10 †101

P. M.

†Daily. †Sunday only. Other trains daily
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100 Acres planted with Berries 100

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No. 4, Wholesale Free, and No. 5, Catalogue of
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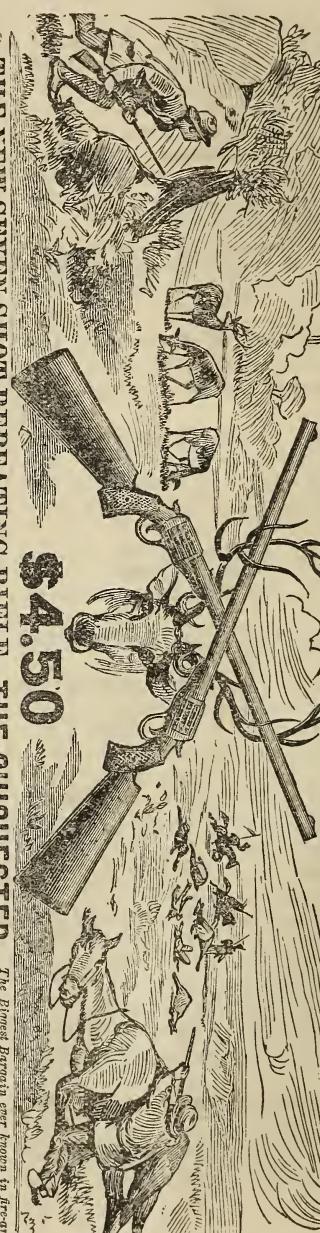
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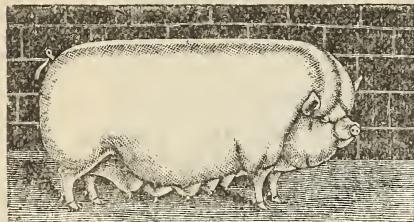
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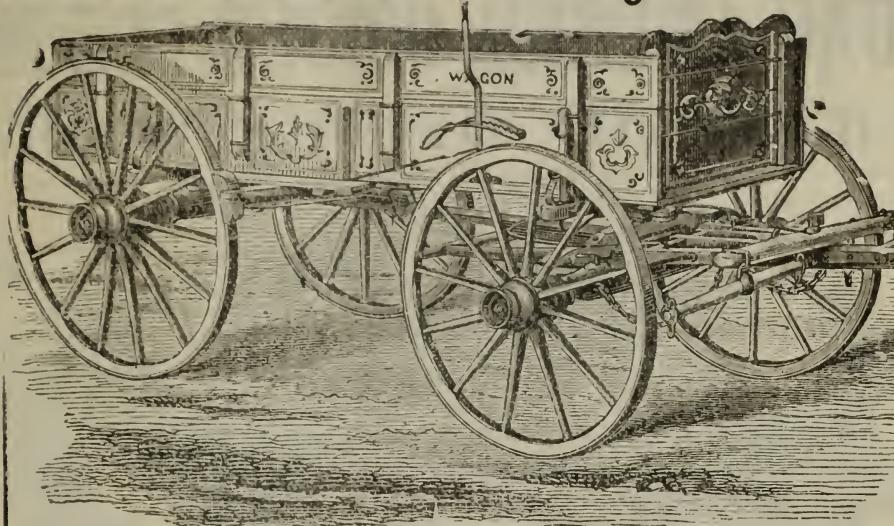
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Capacity.

3 inch Thimble Skein, Light 2 Horse.....	\$ 90 00—2500 lbs.
3½ " " Medium 2 Horse.....	95 00—3000 lbs.
3¾ " " Heavy 2 Horse.....	100 00—4000 lbs.
3¾ " " 3 or 4 Horse.....	105 00—5000 lbs.
4 " " for 4 Horses, with stiff tongue, pole and stretcher chains.....	115 00—6000 lbs.

The above are complete with whiffletrees, neck yoke, bed and top box, stay chains, &c.

IRON AXLE WAGONS.

1½ inch Iron Axle, Light 2 Horse.....	\$100 00—2300 lbs.
1¾ " " Medium 2 Horse.....	105 00—2800 lbs.
1¾ " " Heavy 2 Horse.....	110 00—3500 lbs.
2 " " for 4 Horses, with stiff tongue, pole and stretcher chains,	120 00—5000 lbs.
2½ " " 4 " " " "	150 00—7000 lbs.

The above are complete, with whiffletrees, neck yoke, bed and top box, stay chains, &c.
Brakes and Seats furnished for either the Thimble Skein or Iron Axle Wagons at the
following additional cost, viz :

Spring Seat, (with 2 steel springs) \$6. Patent Brakes, \$4. Lock Chain, \$1.

DEMOCRAT (or Country Driving) WAGONS.

No. 2, with half springs, 1 spring seat, shafts.....	\$100 00
No. 3, 3 full springs, 2 seats, shafts and pole.....	135 00
Jersey Buggy " " " " "	160 00

EVERY WAGON WARRANTED.

E. WHITMAN, SONS & CO.,

Nos. 141 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore.

W H I T M A N ' S YOUNG AMERICA CORN & COB MILL CHAMPION OF THE WORLD.



Farmers, Stock Raisers, Dairymen and Poultry Breeders can save more Money with one of these Mills than with any Implement or Machine on their Farm.

MANUFACTURED EXCLUSIVELY BY

E. WHITMAN, SONS & CO.

**141 AND 143 WEST PRATT STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD.**

Now in use by many of the largest and most successful farmers in this country. Read one of the many testimonials we are receiving every day from those who have used them.

Shepherd Asylum Farm, Towsontown, Baltimore Co., Md. June 30th, 1879.

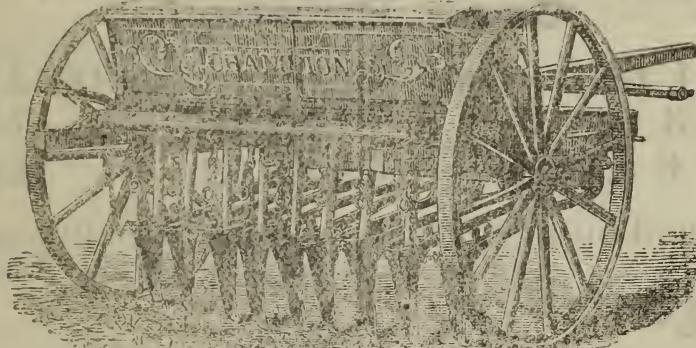
E. Whitman, Sons & Co.

The Corn and Cob Mill I bought of you last fall gave entire satisfaction. Chopped about 3,000 bushels of corn and did its work well. One man will chop about 125 bushels a day.

Respectfully yours,

E. HERMAN, Manager.

CHAMPION F THE WORLD. THE CHAMPION GRAIN DRILL With Fertilizer and Grass Seed Attachments. THE BEST DRILL IN THE WORLD!



ITS POINTS OF SUPERIORITY:

It is the lightest Draught Drill in the market.

It has the best grain distributor ever invented.

It has the only Fertilizer Attachment that always gives Satisfaction and that will sow sticky Phosphates.

It has less cog wheels and machinery and is Simpler than any other Drill.

It gives less trouble to the Operator than any other drill.

It pleases the Purchaser better than any other drill.

Don't Fail to See it before Purchasing any other.

FOR SALE BY

E. B. WHITMAN, Gen'l Agent,
No. 104 SOUTH CHARLES STREET.
BALTIMORE, MD.

BRITISH MIXTURE! A High Grade Phosphate!

Sold direct to Farmers at Lowest Wholesale
Cash Prices.

Price 1 to 3 Tons,	\$32.00 per 2,000 Lbs.
" 3 to 6 "	31.00 per " Lbs.
" 6 & over,	30.00 per " Lbs.

Delivered on board Cars or Boat in Baltimore.

No Agents,
No Commissions,
No Credits,
No Bad Debts.

This article is a high grade Phosphate, better in every respect than the great majority of \$40 to \$50 Phosphates; and instead of being sold through Agents on long credit, is sold direct to the Farmer

—AT THE—

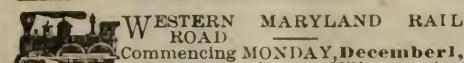
LOWEST WHOLESALE CASH PRICE.

 Send for a Circular and read the opinions of those who have tried it.

E. B. WHITMAN.

No. 104 SOUTH CHARLES STREET.

General Agent for the "Champion Grain Drill,"
Whitman Phosphate, Missouri Bone Meal, & Fertilizer Materials.



WESTERN MARYLAND RAIL ROAD

Commencing MONDAY, December 1,
1879.

Leave Hillen Station daily (except Sunday) for Williamsport, Hagerstown and Emmitsburg 8.00 A. M., 4.15 P. M. For Gettysburg, Hanover, and points on H. J. and G. R. R. (through cars) 8.00 A. M. and 4.15 P. M. For Frederick (through car) 4.15 P. M.

For Union Bridge 8.00 A. M., 4.15, and 6.15 P. M. Relsterstown 10.50 A. M.

Trains arrive at Hillen Station at 8.20 and 10.00 A. M., and 4.40 and 6.20 P. M.

On Sunday—Leave Hillen Station for Union Bridge 9 A. M. 2.10 P. M. Arrive at Hillen Station 8.50 A. M. 6.20 P. M.

Trains stop at Intermediate Stations; also Charles Street, Penna. Ave. and Fulton.

Ticket and Baggage Office, N. E. corner Baltimore and North streets.

B. H. GRISWOLD, General Ticket Agent.

Aug-11 J. M. HOOD, General Manager.

**Merchant's and Miner's
TRANSPORTATION CO.'S
"SAVANNAH LINE"**

FIRST CLASS STEAMSHIPS

SAILING SEMI-WEEKLY BETWEEN,
BALTIMORE & SAVANNAH GA.,

Boston and also Providence.

Through Bills of Lading and Passenger Tickets issued to all points in

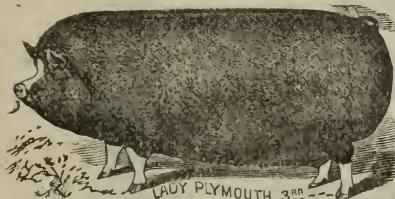
GEORGIA, FLORIDA & ALABAMA.

THOS. W. GOUGH, Agent,

Central R. R. of Ga., 3 German St., Balto

A. L. HUGGINS, Agent,
Boston and Sav. Pier, Long Dock.

BALTIMORE. Feb-11



Berkshire Pigs of all ages for sale at reasonable prices. My herd won thirty prizes last season.

Bronze Turkeys from prize winning strains.

ALEX. M. FULFORD,

Feb-11

BEL AIR, MD

N^o 60 **FREE GIFT!**

A copy of my **Medical Common Sense Book** will be sent to any person afflicted with **Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, Sore Throat, or Nasal Catarrh.** It is elegantly printed and illustrated. 144 pages, 12mo, 1879. It has been the means in the providence of God of saving many valuable lives. Send name and post-office address, with six cents postage for mailing. The book is invaluable to persons suffering with any disease of the **Nose, Throat or Lungs.**

Address Dr. N. B. WOLFE, CINCINNATI, O.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE BAY LINE

FOR
**NORFOLK, PORTSMOUTH,
THE SOUTH,
AND SOUTH-WEST,**

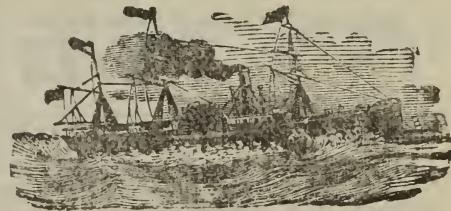
Leaves Union Dock at 6 P. M.; Canton Wharf, foot of Chesapeake street, at 7.30 P. M.; connects closely on fast schedule for Wilmington, Raleigh, Charleston, Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta, Florida, and all points South, to New Orleans; also for Petersburg, Lynchburg, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, and intermediate points.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for Mathews and Yorktown; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for Cherrystone, Edenton and Plymouth (on Saturday lay over at Norfolk); daily with James River boats.

Canton cars of Madison Avenue Line run every 15 minutes to corner of Elliott and Chesapeake streets, one square from steamer.

For tickets and information, apply at Company's Office, 157 W. BALTIMORE STREET, or on board of Steamers, WM. M. LAWSON, Agent.

Feb-11



**DAILY
Fast Freight & Passenger Line.**

**THROUGH
RATES OF FREIGHT**

by the Popular and Reliable Lines,

**YORK RIVER RAILROAD
AND**

**Piedmont Air Line,
From BALTIMORE to all POINTS SOUTH**

This is the ONLY LINE which has

**No Transfer or Hauling of Freight
THROUGH RICHMOND.**

Time QUICK and LOW RATES Guaranteed

Mark Goods Via

**YORK RIVER LINE,
Pier, 10 Light Street Wharf**

Feb-11 **R. FOSTER, General Manager**



BALTIMORE
MILL FURNISHING WORKS.

MANUFACTURES OF

FRENCH BURR MILL STONES

SMUT MACHINES

Portable Mills, Mill Bushes, &c.

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

Burr Blocks, Bolting Clothes and Mill Furnishings
Generally.

B. F. STARR & CO.

No. 173 NORTH STREET

Aug—ly (Cor. of Centre,) BALTIMORE.

**WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO'S
PERFECTED BUTTER COLOR**

gives Better the gilt-edge color the year round. The largest Butter Buyers recommend its use. Trade—
Ditmars say IT IS PERFECT. Ask your druggist or merchant for it, or write to take butter if it is what you
want, who uses it, where to get it. WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., Proprietors. Burlington, Vt.

From the Factory to the Wearer.

Shirts of Superior Muslin, Extra Fine Linen Shield Bosom,
Open Back, French Yoke, and completely finished for

\$7.50 A DOZEN!!



Having completed arrangements with one of the largest Cotton Factories in the United States for an unlimited supply of Shirting Muslin, at the extremely low prices reached during the business stagnation, and having largely increased our facilities for the manufacture of men's and boy's Shirts, in all styles, we have decided to make an important departure from the course usually adopted by small establishments, and to place ourselves directly in communication with the consumer, thus avoiding the enormous profits required by middlemen and the retail trade, and enabling us to make the following unprecedented offer:

12 Superior Muslin, Fine Linen Finished French Yoke Shirts, as above, ready for wear,	\$7.50
6 " " " " " "	4.00
3 " " " " " "	2.25

An elegant set of rolled gold plated Sleeve and Collar Buttons presented to each purchaser of 12 or 12 Shirts. Sample Shirt, finished complete, with a set of Buttons as above, sent **prepaid** by mail on receipt of \$5.00. We warrant these shirts to be first-class in every respect, to be substantially and neatly finished, and equal in appearance, durability and style to any Shirt in the market costing two or three times as much. Send size of shirt worn, circumference of chest and length of arms. Remember in ordering from us you **save all outside profits**. Boys' Shirts same price. Postage or Current taken. Catalogue of goods sent with all shipments.

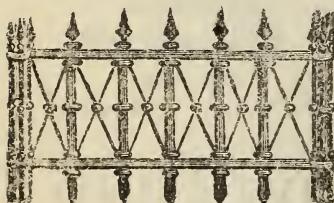
NEW YORK FURNISHING CO., 421 Broadway, New York, U. S. A.

Au-ly

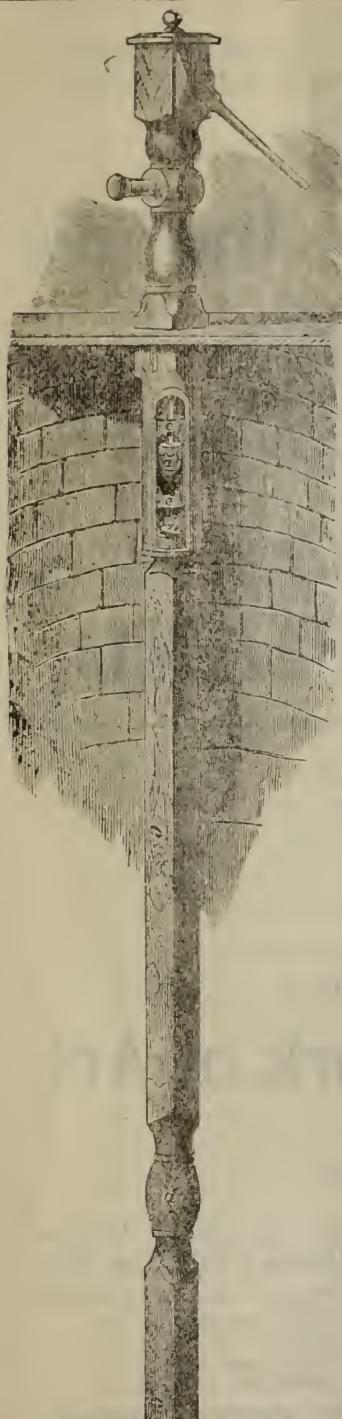
LOUIS BRECHT,

Variety Iron Works,

105 FRANKLIN ST., bet. Eutaw & Howard Sts
Aug—ly BALTIMORE, MD.



Cast and Wrought Iron Work of every description, such as Iron Vault Doors, Hot-house Balconies, Awnings, Iron Work for Buildings, Iron Railings, etc., etc.—I will guarantee satisfaction in everything pertaining to my branch of business. □



WHITMAN'S
METAL LINED
CUCUMBER WOOD
PUMPS.

The most Perfect Pump ever Invented.

The Weak Point in all other Cucumber Pumps
is in this rendered *indestructible*.

SUITABLE FOR WELLS OF ANY DEPTH

Complete for 20ft. Well, \$7 to \$10.

The simplest arrangement for drawing water
in the world.

They are easily kept in repair.

They can be put down in five minutes.

They will not freeze.

They will last for years without repair.

E. WHITMAN, SONS & CO.

141 & 143 W. Pratt Street,
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STIEFF**Grand, Square and Upright
PIANOS!
HIGHEST HONORS**

Over all American and many European rivals at the
EXPOSITION, PARIS, 1878.

THE STIEFF PIANO

Combines in a wonderful degree the essential qualities of a perfect instrument, namely:

BRILLIANCY,
SWEETNESS,
EVENNESS OF TONE
FAULTLESS ACTION,
EASY TOUCH,
ARTISTIC FINISH,
EXTREME DURABILITY.

Every Piano Is a Work of Art.

PERFECT IN DESIGN,
PERFECT IN WORKMANSHIP,
ELEGANT IN APPEARANCE

A large assortment of Second-hand Pianos always on hand. General Agent for Burdett, Clough & Warren, Peloubet, Pelton & Co., New England, and Taylor & Farley Organs. Pianos and Organs sold on monthly installments. ~~W~~ Send for Illustrated piano or organ catalogue.

**CHAS. M. STIEFF,
No. 9 NORTH LIBERTY STREET,
Aug—ly. BALTIMORE, MD.**

THE GRANITE ROOFING COMPANY of BALTIMORE

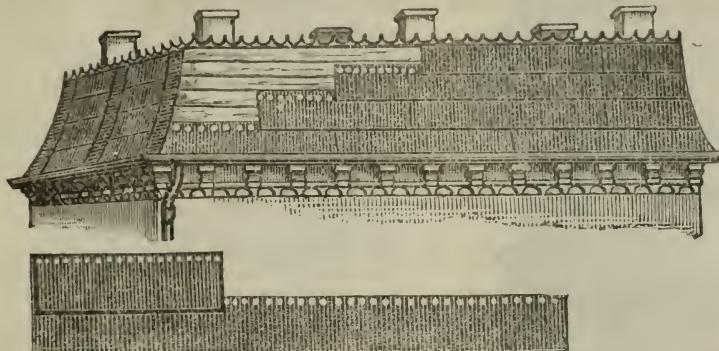
Office, and Factory, 14 S. Front St.

P. H. MORGAN, President and Sole Agent for the United States.

STATE AND TERRITORIAL RIGHTS FOR SALE.

FAVORABLE TERMS TO AGENTS, &

Received Highest Premium at Maryland Institute Fair, held in October last for Roofing Material Cement, and Diploma for Tank.



No other Roofing enjoys the reputation universally accorded our Granite Roofing. It is as fire-proof as slate or sheet iron. It resists the action of water and of the strongest acids. It is good for the lining of Cisterns or Water Tanks, will not color or give any distaste to Drinking Water. It is more durable than any other kind of Roofing. It resists and arrests dampness. It can be walked on without injuring it. It is adapted for steep as well as for flat roofs. It can be easily and rapidly laid on by inexperienced persons. All these qualities render it unequalled for Rolling Mills, Steamboat Decks, Barges, Manufacturing Establishments, Railroad Depots, and for every description of buildings, particularly such as are liable to take Fire, &c.

The Granite Roofing Company also manufactures Roofing Paint for Metallic or Shingles Roofs, Damp Walls and Iron Work generally. It keeps constantly on hand all kinds of Felt and Cements.

The Granite Roofing is manufactured by machinery, ready to lay on the building. It is rolled in sheets $15\frac{1}{2}$ feet long by 32 inches wide and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. It is put up on rollers and securely packed for shipping to any distance.

The Granite Roofing Company will make special terms with agents or parties in the roofing business.

Repairing old roofs of every description promptly attended to and charge moderate. Country Orders Solicited.

Norwithstanding the superior quality and durability of our Roofing, it is supplied on *more favorable* terms than Tin or Shingles Roofs. The very best references given.

I wish to call attention to a recent invention of mine, viz.: A Tank of *any capacity* for containing *strongest acids*. Cost reasonable and satisfaction guaranteed.

Morgan's Acid Tank.

Mr. Morgan has also Patented an Acid Tank, a model of which he has on exhibition, which will contain for any length of time the strongest acids without leaking. They can be made of wood, brick or iron, of any size or capacity, and are merely lined with this roofing material, and are guaranteed to contain the strongest acids known, and at the same time the cost is more reasonable than any other tank made for the same purpose. Mr. Morgan has the strongest endorsement for Dr. Lieby, of the Patapsco Guano Company's Works, as well as from other prominent men. The following certificates speak for itself:

BALTIMORE, October 3d, 1878.

This is to certify that I had this little Tank made by Mr. P. H. Morgan, filled with strong Muriatic Acid for six days, and that there were no signs of leakage.

As manufacturers, handling large quantities of Muriatic Acid, frequently experiencing difficulties, in providing tanks, which will not be affected by Muriatic Acid, I consider this invention of great value. I will add, that there has been built at the Baltimore Chrome Works, a large tank, holding over 8,000 gallons, which has been used for storage of Muriatic Acid for the last four months, and has given entire satisfaction.

Respectfully,

W. SIMON, PH. D.

Acid Tanks (warranted acid proof) and Water Cisterns of any capacity, cheaply and promptly constructed, either in City or Country. Also Steam Boilers and Pipes covered at shortest notice.

Mch-ly

Jennings' System of Water Filtration.

ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK CITY IN 1876.
AND IN BALTIMORE IN 1879.



This machine placed in a house and connected with the inlet pipe from the street filters and purifies all the water entering the house without impeding its volume or force. Entirely unlike any other apparatus ever made and THE ONLY SUCCESSFUL SYSTEM of filtering water under pressure IN THE WORLD. Has had four years test under every variety of circumstances in New York City, and is now in successful operation in dozens of places in Baltimore, in public buildings, schools, laundries factories, mills and private dwellings. The system is invaluable for filtering feed water for STEAM BOILERS, saving a large percentage of fuel by prevention of incrustation, giving dryer and CLEANER steam and more than doubling the life of the boilers.

Description of the Machine.

The cylinder of the filter is of cast iron, about 4 feet 6 inches long, and 18 inches in diameter, and weighs some 700 pounds. This cylinder is filled with charcoal of suitable size and quality, to thoroughly filter and purify the water passing through it. Both ends of the cylinder are fitted with iron gratings covered with copper wire gauge, which arrests the coarser impurities in the water. To this cylinder is connected a six-way valve, and to the valve is connected the inlet pipe from the street, the supply pipe to the house, hot water connection with the kitchen (or steam boiler for cleansing purposes), and the waste pipe to the sewer. This valve is operated by a single lever. To cleanse the filter when it shows signs of becoming clogged, it is only necessary to give this lever a quarter-turn, which shuts the street water off from the filter, and allows a reverse current of hot water from the boiler to pass through the filter, washing all the impurities into the sewer.

The machine for domestic purposes is usually placed in the cellar, and can be set by any plumber without interfering with the existing conditions of the pipes of the house. The process of cleaning requires only three to five minutes, about once a week.

The apparatus can, if desired, be placed in the kitchen, or where a tank in the upper part of the house is supplied by wind mill or ram, the filter is placed under the tank. Once placed in a house, there is no reason why the apparatus should not last as long as any of the pipes in the house. There being nothing of a destructible nature used in its manufacture, the filtering material never requiring renewing or repacking.

SMALLER FILTERS ADAPTED TO ALL PURPOSES, AND VARYING IN PRICE FROM TWO DOLLARS AND UPWARDS ALWAYS ON HAND.

OFFICE 226 WEST BALTIMORE STREET.

R. S. JENNINGS, Manager.

Sept

ESTABLISHED 1845.

Hirshberg, Hollander & Co.,

Manufacturers' Agent and Wholesale Dealers in

**PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES,
BRUSHES, GLUES,****Liquid Paints** Ready Mixed
for Use. **in all Styles of Packages.**

French and American Window Glass,

**CUT, GROUND ENAMELED & COLORED GLASS,
LOOKING GLASS PLATES.****Painters' and Artists' Supplies.**

224 West Pratt Street, and

S. E. COR. PRATT & HANOVER ST., BALTIMORE.

Send for Catalogue and Sample Card of Kalsomine and Fresco Paints.
Je-ly

PELS, For LADIES, MISSES and CHILDREN
ARE SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHERS.
We manufacture them on five different widths,
and can fit all feet.
EVERY PAIR WARRANTED TO WEAR.
Shoes of every description made to order, at
short notice.

THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN
Ladies' Fine Slippers.

—AT—

PELS' SHOE HOUSE,
59 N. EUTAW STREET.

Splendid assortment of Gents' Fine Shoes and Gaite
All orders by mail will receive prompt attention.

APRIL

TO WHEAT GROWERS!

J. J. TURNER & CO.,

AMMONIATED

BONE SUPER PHOSPHATE,



Composed of the most concentrated materials, it is richer in Ammonia and Soluble Phosphates than any other Fertilizer sold, except our "Excelsior," and is made with the same care and supervision; uniform quality guaranteed; in excellent order for drilling.

Farmers should see that every Bag is branded with the analysis and our name in red letters, which we hope will prove sufficient protection against counterfeit articles. ALL FURTHER ABUSE OF OUR NAME BEING DISCLAIMED FOR THE FUTURE.

**J. J. TURNER & CO., No. 42 W. PRATT ST.
BALTIMORE, MD.**

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Geo. F. Sloan & Bro.

LUMBER,

Shingles, Sash, Bricks, &c.

IN LOTS TO SUIT.

**132 Light St. Wharf,
BALTIMORE, MD.**

E. A. BAGLEY.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

**Nursery & Seedsman,
Jerusalem Mills, Harford Co., Md.**

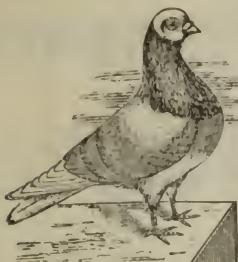
40000 Peach Trees, \$50 to \$70 per 1000, First Quality

ALSO, APPLE, PEAR, CHERRY, &c., EVERGREENS AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, HEDGE PLANTS, &c. GARDEN SEED IN LARGE OR SMALL QUANTITIES.

Send for Price List.

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E. A. BAGLEY

FOR SALE:

White, Blue and Black Fantails. Solid, Wing and Tail Turbits. Silver, Black, Yellow, White and Blue Owls. White, Red and Yellow Jacobins. Black and Yellow Trumpeters. Silver, Blue, Red and Blue Chequered Antwerps, and other varieties at low rates.

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Address, MARYLAND FARMER.

Wall Papers.

Window Shades.

HENRY EWALT,**312 N. Gay St.****near Aisquith St.**

Offers to the public the latest styles of WALL PAPERS, of all grades, at the lowest prices. WINDOW SHADES, of the latest styles, with or without Scallops, of the best qualities, at low prices. ROOMS PAPERED in the city or country at short notice. Prompt personal attention given to all orders.  Notice the place by the three story white front. Jy-ly

NOAH WALKER & CO.,

THE CELEBRATED

CLOTHIERS,

OF BALTIMORE, MD.

Announce the introduction of a plan of ordering

CLOTHING AND UNDERWEAR BY LETTER,

To which they call your special attention. They will send on application their improved and accurate RULES FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT, and a full line of samples from their immense stock of

Cloths, Cassimeres, Coatings, Shirtings &c., &c.

A large and well-assorted stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING always on hand, together with a full line of FURNISHING GOODS

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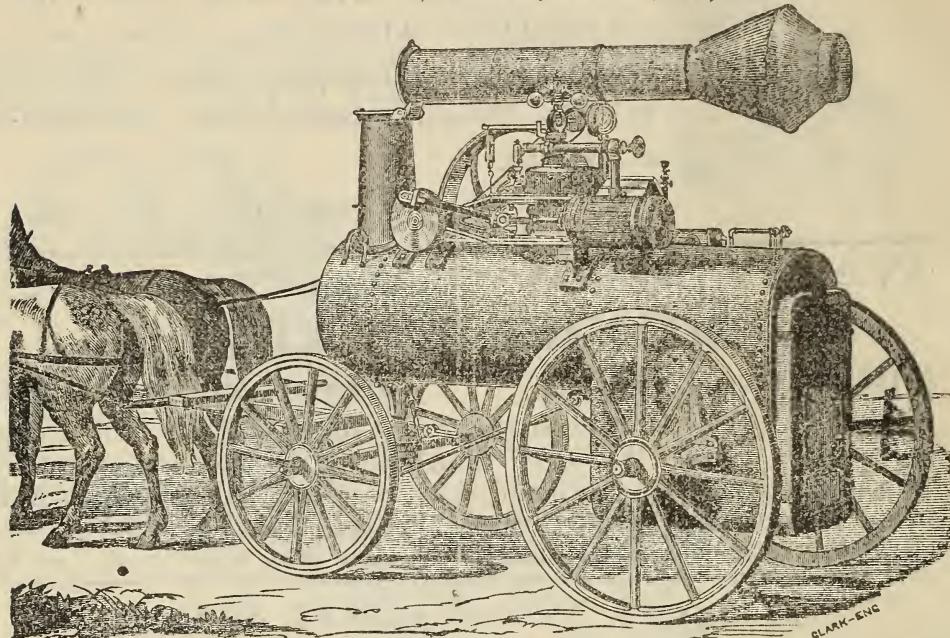
Manufacturers and Dealers in Men's and Boys' Clothing and Furnishing Goods, either Ready-Made or Made to Order.

Nos. 165 & 167 W. BALTIMORE ST.,

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Baltimore, Md.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL WORKS,
 A. B. FARQUHAR, Proprietor, YORK, PA.
STEAM ENGINES A SPECIALTY
 FOR THRESHING, GINNING, SAWING, Etc., Etc.



Above cut represents my Vertical Engine, mounted. In use it stands on the base, and it is let up and down with perfect ease. Is adapted for Threshing, Ginbing, &c., and while it is in every respect a first-class article, it is the cheapest portable engine made. I make them with and without wheels, and of all sizes; six horses being the leading size.

HORIZONTAL BARS

From four to twenty horse power, adapted to all descriptions of work where power is required, and warranted equal to any made in America. The boilers are made of the best charcoal iron, and I have never had one to give way. *Send for Illustrated Catalogue.*

Sept-ly ADDRESS **A. B. FARQUHAR, York, Pa.**

OF MERIT
AT
CENTENNIAL.
Send for Catalogue.



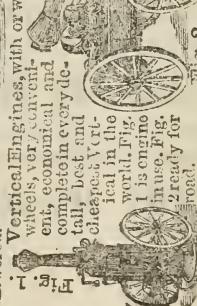
Received Medal
AND
HIGHEST AWARD

STEAM ENGINES;

A. B. FARQUHAR, York, Pa.

Cheapest and best for all purposes—simple, strong, and durable. Also Horse Power, Saws, Grist and Cobble Mills, Gins, Presses and Machinery generally. Inquiries promptly answered.

Vertical Engines, with or without wheels, very convenient, economical and complete in every detail, best and cheapest. Vertical in the world. Fig. 1 is engine house. Fig. 2 ready for road.



The Farquhar Separator
(charcoal).

PA.

W. 7-3.

YORK, Pa.

Largest, best, most durable, best, most economic and perfect in construction and value for money.

AND HIGHEST PRIZE AWARDED SEPARATORS.
Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Address A. B. Farquhar, York, Pa.

THE SILVER MEDAL
AT
Paris Exposition.



Steam Engines, etc., &c.

Send for Catalogue.

EDWD. J. EVANS & CO.

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**NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN,
YORK, PENNA.**

A complete assortment of Standard and Dwarf FRUIT TREES, SHADE and ORNAMENTAL TREES, EVERGREENS, Hardy Ornamental and Climbing SHRUBS GRAPES, SMALL FRUITS, HEDGE PLANTS, &c.

Garden and Flower Seeds, Grass Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Seed Corn, Oats, Wheat, Hedge seed, &c., and HORTICULTURAL GOODS of all kinds.

Descriptive Catalogues and price lists mailed to applicants.

mar-1

H. MAGNE & SONS'



MONUMENTAL CHURN!

The cheapest, best and most complete in the market. Free from the inconveniences and imperfections of most others. They produce butter quickly; easily cleaned and opened to the sun and air. We also manufacture Barrel and Staff Churns, and all other descriptions of Cedar Ware and Tanks.

H. MAGNE & SONS.

June-1yr.

No. 408 WEST PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE.

LEE'S PREPARED AGRICULTURAL LIME

Prepared Especially for Each and Every Crop.

Try it by the side of any Manure on the Market, and judge yourself of its merits, on any and every crop.

Price, \$15 per ton, 16 bags to ton, at boat or depot in this city. Send for circulars and testimonials.

L. J. WARREN,

AGENT FOR THE MANUFACTURER,

Feb-1y

18 East Fall's Ave., Baltimore.

REMINGTON AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Steel, Carbon & Iron PLOWS.

Improved MOWERS and HORSE RAKES,

HORSE HOES, SHOVEL PLOWS,

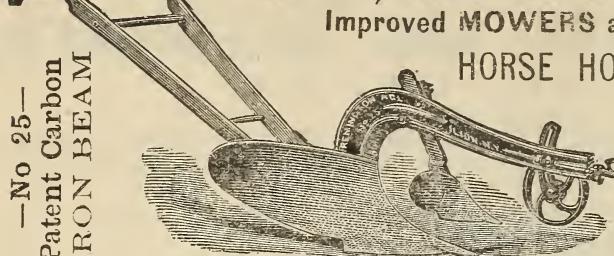
CULTIVATORS,

SOLID STEEL

Shovels, Scoops, Spades,

Hoes, Forks, Rakes,

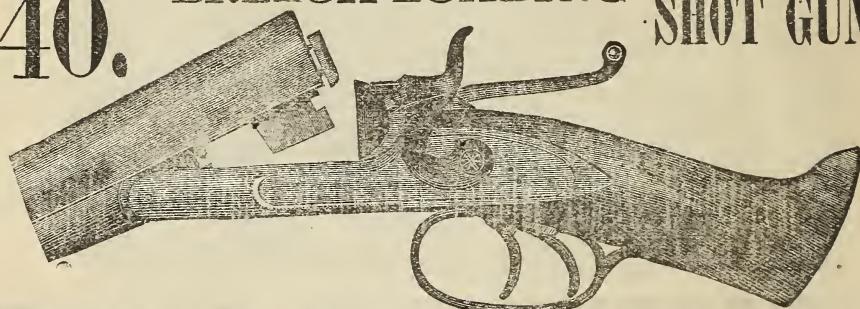
&c., &c.



-No 25—
Patent Carbon
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"CARBON METAL."—A practical mixture of Refined Steel, Wrought Iron and other metals cast in form, HARDER than Steel or any surface-chilled Iron (the chilled iron being subject to soft spots). By our method the metal is uniform all through, every cast being alike; or, by change of compound can temper to any desired hardness for other purposes, combining strength, great ware and durability; subject to fine polish, it will scour in any soil. Costs less than Steel, and a trifle more than Cast Iron, but far superior and cheaper,

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Rebounding Locks.

THE BEST GUN MADE.

Warranted in every respect.

Fine English Twist and Damascus Guns from \$45 to \$95. Also Remington Rifles &c.

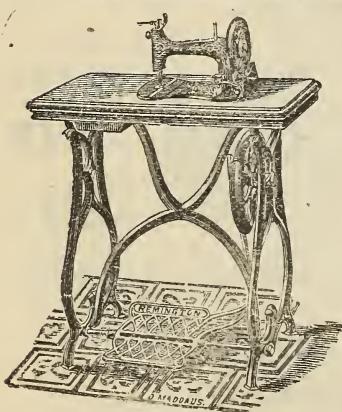
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LARGE ARM, SIMPLE, NOISELESS.

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New Pears, New Peaches—with a large stock of Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherries, Standards and Dwarf, Grape Vines, Small Fruits, &c.

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of all sizes, all of the finest quality, and at the lowest rates.

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of the finest quality, fresh and pure grown by myself, or specially for me, or my importation.

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Being extensively engaged in importing and growing.

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consequently my facilities for seed saving are unequalled.

The following Catalogues with others now ready mailed free:

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Dinner Plates, a dozen.....	75
12 handled cups and 12 saucers.....	1 00

WHITE STONE CHINA.

Tea Plates, a dozen.....	75
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Covered Dishes, 65, 75 and 85 cents each.	
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Plain Crystal Goblets, a dozen.....	75
Tumblers 50 cents a dozen and upwards.	

Crystal Dessert Set, 4 articles.....	50
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Our facilities are unsurpassed for securing direct from the manufacturers, all new styles of *China, Earthen and Glassware, Bowls, Celery dishes, Dishes, Goblets, &c.*, at lowest cash prices, and further quotations of prices will be promptly furnished on application.

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Foutz's Powders will cure and prevent Hog CHOLERA. Foutz's Powders will prevent GAVES IN FOWLS. Foutz's Powders will increase the quantity of milk and cream twenty per cent., and make the butter firm and sweet.

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Sep-ly

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It is the only Hotel in Baltimore of the new style, embracing

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Its elegant and convenient Office and Exchange Room, with Telegraph, &c., will at all times be at the disposal of the merchants and citizens of the city.

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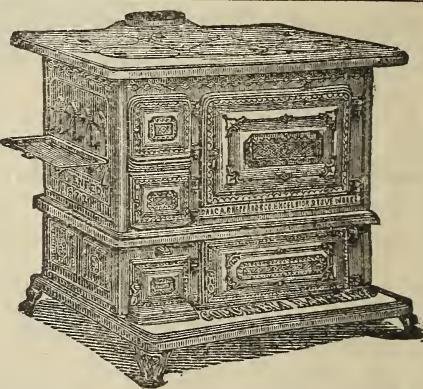
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**Wheat, Corn, Oats, Buckwheat & Grass,
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Feb-ly

Baltimore, Md.

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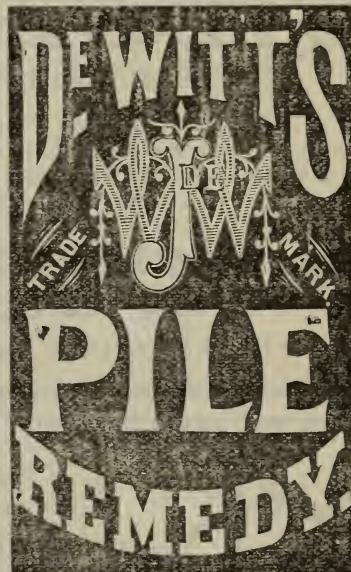
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Eggs from 10 carefully selected Brown Leghorns, 8 fine Dark Brahmans and choice Light Brahmans, from J. E. Loyd's 1st premium stock, finest in the State, and also a few settings from a hen of 1st premium stock White Leghorn, at \$1.50 per 13. Eggs from Imperial Pekin Ducks 1st premium birds, \$2 per 13 eggs; packed to hatch, and delivered at express free.

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P. S.—All bred in the county. Mch tf

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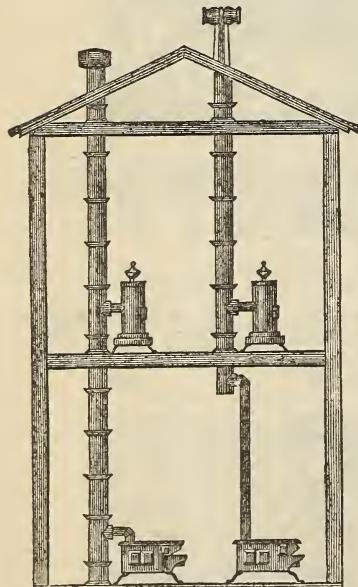
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SAVE THE EXPENSE OF BUILDING AN UGLY BRICK CHIMNEY.



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PRICES:	{	Six inch bore	per foot, 40 cents.
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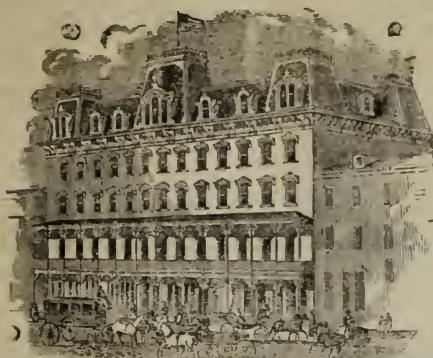
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Mar-ly

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he "MALTBY" is the only House in Baltimore conducted on both the

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Its locations, in the commercial centre of the city, commends it alike to the Commercial Traveller, the Tourist and Business men generally.

Owing to the decline in the cost of many articles appertaining to our expenses, the rates of Board will be reduced after March 10th, 1877, to
**\$2.00 and \$2.50 per Day on the American Plan
and \$1.00 to 2.00 on the European.**

Being the only Hotel in the country at the above rates, possessing all the modern improvements, including **FIRST-CLASS PASSENGER ELEVATOR**, which will be in constant operation, making all parts of the house desirable and easy of access.

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DOORS, SASHES, BLINDS,

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And Cor. of Canton Avenue and Albemarle St.,

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Dealers in

VIRGINIA, CAROLINA AND GEORGIA YELLOW PINE TIMBER,

AND KEEP IN STOCK!

A Large Assortment of Dry Lumber, suitable for
Bridge and Canal Builders Cabinet Makers, Pattern Makers,
House and Ship Carpenters, Machinists, and Wheelwrights.
FENCING, SHINGLES, LATHS, TICKETS & DRESSED LUMBER. Jely

Dissolution of Copartnership.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 19th, 1878

The Copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the name of J. J. Turner & Co., is this day DISSOLVED by mutual consent. Either will sign in liquidation.

J. J. TURNER.

J. Q. A. HOLLOWAY

To Tobacco Planters and Corn Growers.

The undersigned, Pioneer in the manufacture of Fertilizers in this city, and engaged since 1858, first as a member of the firm of J. J. & F. Turner, BY WHOM the formulas and processes of manufacture of

'Excelsior' and 'Ammoniated Phosphate'

Were originated, and since 1864 a member of the late firm of J. J. Turner & Co., relying upon his experience and personal reputation, hitherto acquired in the uniform excellence of these fertilizers as manufactured by him, offers them IN HIS OWN NAME to the agricultural public.

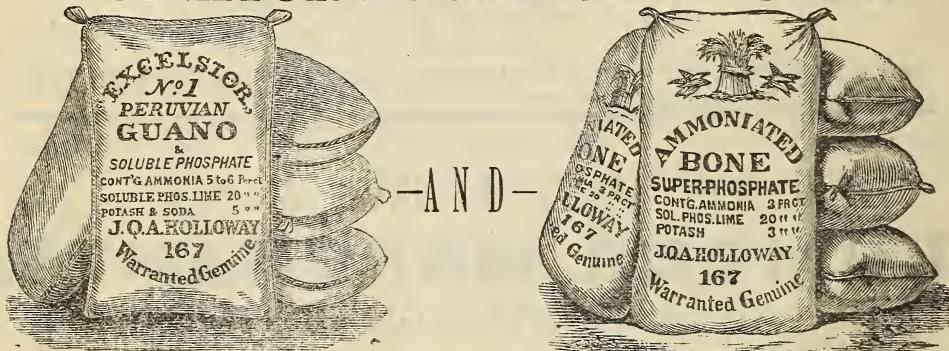
Having secured the works of the old firm, 111 McElderry's Wharf, with the complete machinery, *especially constructed for their uniform manipulation*, he will continue the manufacture of

"Excelsior" and "Ammoniated Phosphate"

on his own account, with his office adjoining the works, where he will be pleased to see his friends and patrons, assuring them that the FERTILIZERS manufactured BY HIM shall be of the *same uniform and high standard quality* as sold by the old firms since their introduction.

J. Q. A. HOLLOWAY,

ORIGINATOR and MANUFACTURER of



The above are the most concentrated, universal and durable FERTILIZERS ever offered to the Farmer—combining all the stimulating qualities of Peruvian Guano and the ever-durable fertilizing properties of Bones, in fine dry powder prepared expressly for drilling, and can be applied in any quantity, however small, per acre. It is the opinion of many close-calculating farmers, after over TWENTY YEARS experience in testing the "EXCELSIOR" manufactured by me, side by side with other popular fertilizers, that an application of 100 pounds is equal to 200 pounds of any other fertilizer or guano ever offered for sale, therefore fully 50 per cent cheaper.

By strictly adhering to *my original formulas*, using only the most concentrated materials and *Superintending in person* their manufacture as for the past twenty years,

UNIFORM QUALITY IS GUARANTEED.

Farmers to secure the GENUINE EXCELSIOR AND PHOSPHATE prepared according to *my Original Formulas established in 1858*, should see that every Bag is branded as above, with the *Analysis and my name in Red Letters*.

EXCELSIOR \$46 PER TON. PHOSPHATE \$40 PER TON.

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ORIGINATOR AND MANUFACTURER,
107 McELDERRY'S WHARF.

Munson's Infalible Indelible Ink

Differs from all others; a beautiful jetblack, absolutely unchangeable upon all fabrics, coarse or fine, resisting chemicals and severest tests of the laundry. No preparation, or scumming, or ironing is required. All goods may be starched and ironed to get a smooth surface for fine writing. As superior to best inks hitherto known as electric light is to tallow candle. Ladies once trying to use no other, and tell friends what a treasure it is. Does not dry up and spoil as some do. Cheapest as well as best. 25 cts. of any druggist, grocer, stationer, bookseller, and dealers generally. Samples mailed free on receipt of stamp for postage.

MUNSON & CO., 115 Nassau St., New York.

RATS ! MICE !

And all other vermin exterminated. 25 cents per package.

CIDER, WINE,

and all fermented liquors kept sweet for an indefinite time by arresting fermentation. No theory, but a chemical discovery. Enough for ten barrels, prepaid, on receipt of 50 cents.

Soils and Waters

Analyzed, and all work to aid the Farmer performed accurately, cheaply and with dispatch.

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The best work that ever has been published. SPLENDID PREMIUM TO EVERY SUBSCRIBER. For circulars and terms apply at once to

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A. G. MOTT,

Manufacturer and dealer in

Agricultural Implements,**Machines and Seeds,**

No. 40 ENSOR STREET,

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Some fifteen second-hand Buckeye and other first class Mowers for sale cheap; call and see them. Repairing implements a specialty.

Dec-ly

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THE BEST PAPER PUBLISHED ON FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

16 PAGES MONTHLY \$1.00

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EVERYTHING
FOR THE
GARDEN

SEEDS, PLANTS, SMALL FRUITS &c.

CATALOGUE FREE TO ALL
WHO APPLY BY LETTER.

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BERRIES.
QUEEN of the MARKET the largest and best. 2,000,000 Sharpless Strawberries. 1,000,000 Miner's Great Pragie. 10 acres other choice varieties. 2,650 bushels Berries grown at Pomona Nursery in 1879. A new race of Pears. Kleister's Hybrid, Blight-Proof; hardy and productive, bears early, fruit large, and of good quality. For Catalogues free.

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Bates Harvester,

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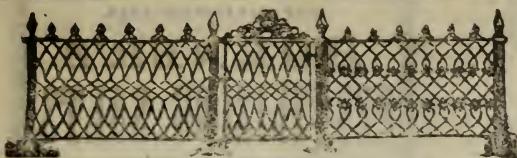
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Send for Catalogue and Price List.

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Wire Railing for Cemeteries, Balconies, &c.

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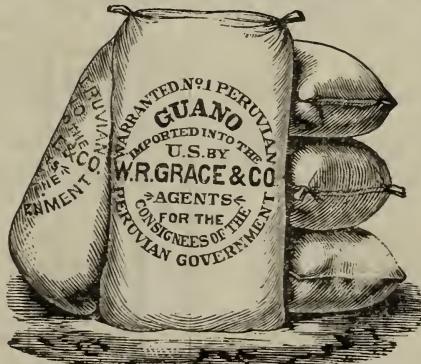
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LEATHER HOSE AND MACHINE CARD CLOTHING.

Supplies for Cotton, Woolen, Silk, and all Description of Factories; Paper, Flour and Saw Mills. Railroad and Machine Shops.

Our Belts are warranted to run straight, do as much work, and last as long as any other make in the country, provided they have the proper care. Rubber Belts, Rubber Packing, Fibrous Gaskets and Rubber Goods for all mechanical purposes. Machine Oil, Lace Leather and Machinery Supplies generally.

Sep 1y

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**White and Red Ash
ANTHRACITE
COAL.**

**ALSO
CUMBERLAND
COAL.**

Especial attention given to this Coal for Manufacturers and all Steam Purposes.

By Cargo or less Quantity.

ALSO,

Wood of all kinds.

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Private Telephone Wharfs and Yards. Also connected with "Telephone Exchange" in both cities.

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**HORNER'S
FERTILIZING SALTS,**
With which any farmer can make his own fertilizers.
CHEMICALS
And other materials for making
HOME FERTILIZERS.

Muriate Potash, Kalinit,
Sulphate Soda, Plaster,
Peruvian Guano, Oil Vitriol,
Nitrate Soda, Dried Blood,
Dissolved South Carolina,
Dissolved Raw Bone, &c., &c.

A full supply of PURE Materials always on hand and for sale at lowest market prices.
Formulas for home manipulation, estimates as to cost, and information regarding mixing, &c., cheerfully given.

HORNER'S
Pure Slaughter House
BONE-DUST
AND
DISSOLVED BONE,
GUARANTEED THE
"Best in America."

HORNER'S
AMMONIATED

Raw Bone Superphosphate
AND CONCENTRATED
SUPERPHOSPHATE
FOR ALL CROPS.
SEND FOR CIRCULAR.

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\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and \$5 outfit free. Address H. Hallett & Co., Portland, Me. Dec-ly

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 LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY MAGAZINE.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE,
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TERMS, - - \$1.00 per Annum.

This Illustrated Magazine has entered upon its second year of publication, and Stock Breeders and Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements will acknowledge the importance of having such a medium in the Great Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

Jan-3t

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Twenty-five head to be sold at Public Auction, on the farm of the subscriber, in the Village of Skaneateles, Onondaga County, N. Y., on Wednesday, February 4th, 1880. Send for Sale Catalogue, containing full pedigrees, to Wm. R. Willets, Skaneateles, New York.

2t

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Have bred them five years exclusively, and can recommend them as a farmer's fowl in every respect. They are good layers, and the best of all fowls for market. My stock is first-class, and I will guarantee to suit all parties who may favor me with their patronage. Eggs, **\$3.00 per 13**, securely packed, and a fair hatch guaranteed. Fowls for sale at all seasons. **W. H. CUMMINGS, Milldale, Conn.**

April-1y

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Send for a specimen copy of the

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Also price of the Model Hive and Bee Keepers Supplies, sent free on application. Address Feb E. M. Harrison, Sebanon, Laclede Co., Mo.

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Gardener's Monthly
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HORTICULTURIST,

Edited by THOMAS MEEHAN,

For the Amateur Cultivator, Botanist, Naturalist, Lover of the Country, Florist, Pomologist, Arboriculturist, Nurseryman, Seedsman, Dealer, Landscape Gardener, Fruit Grower, &c.

SUBSCRIPTION.—\$2.10 per year, \$1.05 for six months, 70 cents for four months, 53 cents for three months. \$3.20 for two names or one old and one new. Five subscribers for \$7.00. Sample copies, 12 cents. Address,

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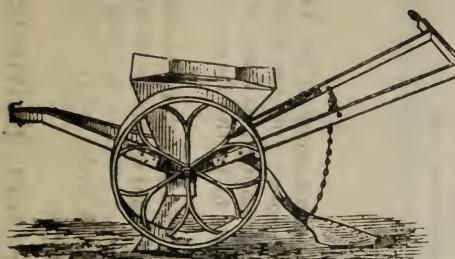
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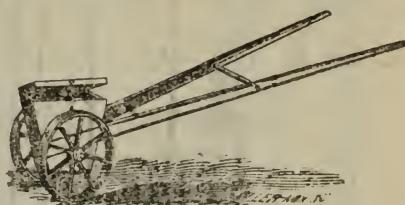
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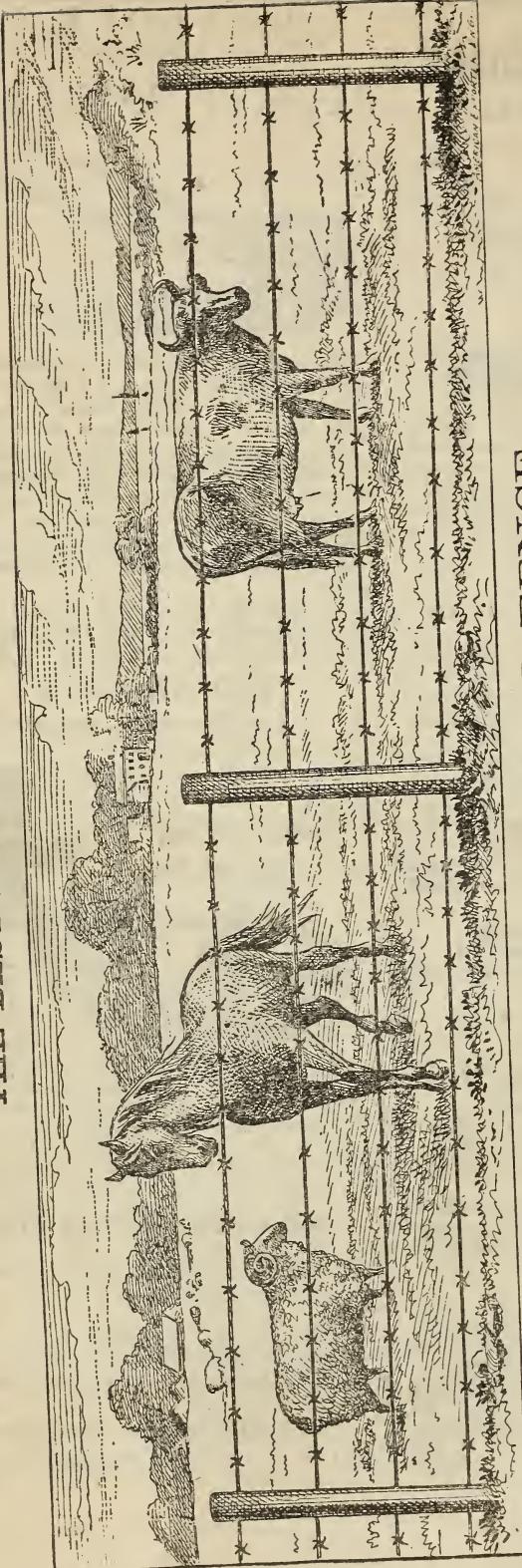
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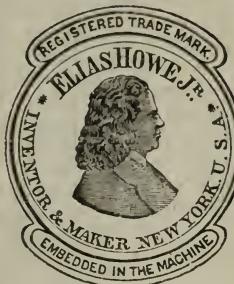
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